FOREIGN
BROADCAST
INFORMATION
SERVICE

Daily Report

East Asia

FBIS-EAS-93-138
Wednesday
21 July 1993

Daily Report
East Asia

FBIS-EAS-93-138 CONTENTS *21 July 1993*

NOTICE TO READERS: An * indicates material not disseminated in electronic form.

INTER-ASIAN AFFAIRS

APEC Membership Sought for Papua New Guinea, Chile *[AFP]* 1
Tripartite Meeting on Growth Triangle Closes *[Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA]* 1
ASEAN Officials React to Clinton APEC Proposal *[Bangkok THE NATION 21 Jul]* 1
ASEAN Said 'Still Poles Apart Over Burma' *[Bangkok THE NATION 21 Jul]* 2
ASEAN Plans Security Forum With Dialogue Partners *[Bangkok THE NATION 21 Jul]* 3

NORTHEAST ASIA

Japan

Sakhalin Officials: 'All' MiG-23's Withdrawn *[KYODO]* 4
Mayors of Sea of Japan Coastal Cities Meet *[KYODO]* 4
Prefectures Seek Policy on Illegal Foreign Workers *[KYODO]* 4
Party Heads Discuss Coalition Government *[Tokyo TV]* 4
Breakdown of Election Voting Figures Released *[KYODO]* 15
Mitsuzuka: LDP Aims for Mixed Electoral System *[KYODO]* 15
Watanabe Expresses Desire for Premiership *[KYODO]* 16
Business Group Urges LDP To 'Democratize' *[KYODO]* 16
Kanemaru Reportedly Received Illegal Donations *[KYODO]* 16
Ministries Begin Public Works Bidding Research *[KYODO]* 17
Smaller Firms Feel Business Conditions Worsening *[KYODO]* 17
Partial Revision of Antimonopoly Law Approved *[KYODO]* 17
Local Governments' Public Works Spending Noted *[KYODO]* 17
OSE Group Urges Securities Law Revision *[KYODO]* 18
Ministry Acts To Set Provisional Rice Prices *[KYODO]* 18
1992 Rice-Growing Costs Said Down From 1991 *[KYODO]* 18
Memorial Sit-In Held Against Nuclear Weapons *[KYODO]* 18

North Korea

Kang Sok-chu Discusses Nuclear Talks With U.S. 19
    Interviewed by ROK Daily *[Seoul CHUNGANG ILBO 20 Jul]* 19
    Holds News Conference *[Pyongyang Radio]* 19
Commentary on Hyundai Strike in South Noted *[KCNA]* 20
KCNA Calls South Korean Government 'Fascist' 20
South Proposal on Unification Denounced 21
    Doctrine Termed 'Challenge' *[KCNA]* 21
    Plan Called 'Deceptive Slogan' *[KCNA]* 21
South Criticized for Defending 'Former Dictators' *[KCNA]* 21
Russia Protests Attack on Employees in Nampo *[Seoul Radio]* 22
Cambodia's Sihanouk Begins Goodwill Visit 22
    Arrives in Pyongyang *[KCNA]* 22
    Meets With Kim Il-song *[KCNA]* 22
    Presents Gift to Kim Il-song *[KCNA]* 22
    Kim Il-song Hosts Luncheon *[KCNA]* 22
Perceived Japanese Nuclear Capability Condemned 23
    Leaders Urged To Show 'Discretion' *[KCNA]* 23
    Seeks Armament 'at Any Cost' *[Pyongyang Radio]* 23
    Called 'Dangerous War Force' *[KCNA]* 25
Japan's LDP Defeated; One-Party Rule Ends *[KCNA]* 25

- Kim Il-song Exploits Against Japanese Army Praised *[KCNA]* 25
- Activities Underway To Commemorate War Anniversary 26
  - War Veterans Lecture at Museum *[KCNA]* 26
  - Lebanese President Sends Greetings *[KCNA]* 27
  - Kim Il-song Receives Messages *[KCNA]* 27
  - PRC Group Visits for Anniversary *[KCNA]* 27
  - Algerian Club Marks Occasion *[KCNA]* 27
  - Greetings From Seychelles President *[KCNA]* 27
  - Foreign Press Reportage Noted *[KCNA]* 28
  - Photo Exhibit Commemorates Victory *[KCNA]* 28
  - Commemorative Events Noted *[KCNA]* 28
  - Anniversary Art Show Opens *[KCNA]* 29
  - SKNDF Holds News Conference *[KCNA]* 29
  - National Symposium Marks Victory *[KCNA]* 29
  - Kim Chong-il Promotes Veterans *[Pyongyang Radio]* 30
- KCNA Reviews Pyongyang Press for 21 Jul 31
- Kim Chong-il Thanks Citizens for Service *[KCNA]* 32
- Workers Party Secretary Meets PRC Delegation *[KCNA]* 32

South Korea

- Exchange of 'Special Envoys' To Promote N-S Dialogue *[YONHAP]* 32
- Han Sung-chu, Christopher To Consult on DPRK *[YONHAP]* 32
- Clinton Remarks on U.S. Military in Asia Noted *[YONHAP]* 33
- U.S. Report on DPRK-Iran Missile Deal Cited *[YONHAP]* 33
- Mubarak Aide: DPRK To Stop Missile Exports to Iran *[Seoul TV]* 34
- DPRK Implies Readiness To Allow IAEA Inspection *[YONHAP]* 34
- Rumors Fly in Pyongyang on 'Fate of Kim Chong-il' *[YONHAP]* 34
- DPRK Claims on DMZ Provocations 'Groundless' *[SEOUL SINMUN 16 Jul]* 34
- Prosecution To Indict Japanese Journalist 22 Jul *[YONHAP]* 35
- Trade, Industry Ministry's Statistics Released *[YONHAP]* 35
- PRC Approves Import of 5,000-6,000 Autos *[YONHAP]* 35
- Former Army Commander Said To Receive Defense Money *[YONHAP]* 35
- Chon Tu-hwan Awarded Medal for 'Chungjong' Role *[YONHAP]* 36
- Increased Energy Trade Sought With Australia *[YONHAP]* 36
- Government Reduces Civil Service Staffing by 219 *[YONHAP]* 36
- Dispatch of Peacekeepers to Somalia Postponed *[YONHAP]* 37
- Officer's Involvement in 'Political Terrorism' Confirmed *[YONHAP]* 37
- Further Reportage on Yulgok Invesitgation 37
  - Prosecution Ends Probe *[YONHAP]* 37
  - To Indict Former Top Military Leaders *[THE KOREA TIMES 19 Jul]* 38
  - Suspicions Remain Over Probe Result *[TONG-A ILBO 19 Jul]* 39
  - Defense Ministry Disciplines Employees *[THE KOREA TIMES 21 Jul]* 39
- Government Issues Warning to Hyundai Strikers *[YONHAP]* 40
  - Invokes Emergency Power To Settle Dispute *[YONHAP]* 40
  - Riot Police Move to Work Sites *[YONHAP]* 41
  - Police Enter Factory 21 Jul *[YONHAP]* 41
  - Union 'Tentatively' Accepts Offer *[YONHAP]* 42
- * Large Firms Link-Up With Local Farm Producers *[CHUGAN MAEKYONG 26 May]* 42

SOUTHEAST ASIA

Cambodia

- Sihanouk Bows to U.S. Pressure on Meeting Khmer Rouge *[Phnom Penh Radio]* 45
- Foreign Minister To Attend ASEAN Conference *[AFP]* 45
  - Receives Malaysian Envoy 20 Jul *[Phnom Penh Radio]* 45
- Public Urged To Report Banditry, Robbery *[Phnom Penh Radio]* 46

Indonesia

Daily Urges Conglomeration of State Enterprises *[SUARA PEMBARUAN 7 Jul]* 46
Editorial Comments on Labor Problems, Union Weakness *[KOMPAS 26 Jun]* 46
Conglomerates Warned About Greed, Selfishness *[AFP]* 48
Activists Demand Workers' Freedom of Association *[THE JAKARTA POST 9 Jul]* 48
East Timorese Integration Talks Approved *[Jakarta Radio]* 49

Laos

Joint MIA Search Begins in Xieng Khouang Province *[Vientiane Radio]* 49
Meeting on Refugee Repatriation Held in Savannakhet *[Vientiane Radio]* 49

Thailand

Army Commander Views Differences With U.S. on Khmer Rouge *[BANGKOK POST 21 Jul]* 50
Trade Official Comments on Upcoming Talks With U.S. *[THE NATION 20 Jul]* 50
Commerce Minister on 'Urgency' of Copyright Issue *[SIAM RAT 20 Jul]* 51
Cabinet Approves Software Protection Bill *[BANGKOK POST 21 Jul]* 51
Defense Minister: Military Strength Review Needed *[BANGKOK POST 21 Jul]* 51
Air Force Commander on Development of Combat Force *[Bangkok Radio]* 52
Official: Quick Action Needed on PRC Transport Links *[BANGKOK POST 21 Jul]* 52
Rice Export Drop Attributed to PRC, SRV Competition *[THE NATION 21 Jul]* 53
Kazakhstan President To Visit 20-22 Jul *[BANGKOK POST 18 Jul]* 53
    Chuan Hosts Banquet for Nazarbayev *[THE NATION 21 Jul]* 53
Cabinet Approves Rules for Megaproject Coordination *[THE NATION 21 Jul]* 54
Chuan Urged To Deal With SAP, Leader Montri *[THE NATION 21 Jul]* 54
Central Bank Lowers Growth Forecast *[BANGKOK POST 20 Jul]* 55

Vietnam

Twenty-Fourth Joint Search for MIA's Concludes *[VNA]* 55
Premier Receives Outgoing Malaysian Ambassador *[VNA]* 56
First Ambassador to Singapore Presents Credentials *[VNA]* 56
Diplomatic Relations Established With Eritrea *[VNA]* 56
Phan Van Khai on Socioeconomic Development *[Hanoi International]* 56
Doan Khue Speaks at Graduation Ceremony *[Hanoi Radio]* 57
Vu Oanh Speaks at Machinery Trade Union Congress *[Hanoi TV]* 57
    Attends Trade Union Maritime Congress *[Hanoi Radio]* 57
    Attends Women's Union Gathering *[Hanoi TV]* 58
Interior Minister Greets People's Police Day *[Hanoi Radio]* 58
Grain Production Targets Set Through 1995 *[Hanoi Radio]* 58
Microwave Transmission Line Commissioned *[Hanoi Radio]* 59
Hanoi TV Broadcasts Daily News in French *[Hanoi TV]* 59
Ba Ria-Vung Tau's Six-Month Achievements Reported *[Hanoi Radio]* 59

APEC Membership Sought for Papua New Guinea, Chile

BK1707131293 Hong Kong AFP in English 1204 GMT 17 Jul 93

[Text] Langkawi Island, Malaysia, July 17 (AFP)—Papua New Guinea and Chile Saturday won backing from Indonesia and Malaysia for membership of the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) forum. Malaysian Foreign Minister Abdullah Badawi said that Malaysia and Indonesia would lobby support for the two countries in the now 15-member APEC formed in 1989 to foster trade and eocnomic links among countries in the Pacific rim.

"Malaysia wants Chile admitted while Indonesia is backing Papua New Guinea. We need to coordinate action to ensure they get in," Abdullah said, adding that the United States was supporting Mexico's entry. Abdullah was speaking here after summit talks between Indonesian President Suharto and Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamed. Suharto, who flew in Friday, is on a three-day visit to this holiday resort.

Abdullah said that APEC should be allowed to consolidate and concentrate on its own programmes after admitting the three countries. APEC's current members are the United States, Canada, Japan, South Korea, China, Taiwan, Hong Kong, Australia, New Zealand and the six Association of Southeast Asian Nations comprising Brunei, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore and Thailand.

Tripartite Meeting on Growth Triangle Closes

BK2007081893 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 0418 GMT 20 Jul 93

[Text] Langkawi, July 20 (OANA—BERNAMA)—Officials from Indonesia, Malaysia and Thailand Monday concluded a meeting on a Growth Triangle that covers parts of the three countries in preparation for a ministerial meeting which begins Tuesday. The triangle comprises northern Sumatera and the special territory of Aceh in Indonesia, the northern states of Kedah, Perak, Perlis and Penang in Malaysia and the southern provinces of Satun, Songkhla, Yala, Narathiwat and Pattani in Thailand.

Malaysian Economic Planning Unit (EPU) Director General Ali Abul Hassan Sulaiman said the officials meeting made some minor changes to the terms of reference for a study on the growth area. The amendments would be forwarded to the ministerial meeting for consideration and decision, he told a press conference at the end of the one-day closed session of the preparatory meeting here.

Ali said it was previously agreed that an independent body undertake a study of the prospects for development of the triangle as well as identify specific projects for implementation. He said: the idea is to get the Asian Development Bank (ADB) to undertake this study.

Ali said the meeting had also discussed the concept of the Growth Triangle, and the constraints and barriers in regional and sub-regional cooperation with the objective of identifying and reducing the constraints.

The idea is that we must not deceive ourselves, telling that everything moves very smoothly. We must be realistic. There are constraints we must recognise and we must work towards reducing these constraints, he said.

ASEAN Officials React to Clinton APEC Proposal

BK2107041193 Bangkok THE NATION in English 21 Jul 93 p A3

[Excerpt] Senior officials of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (Asean) have reacted guardedly to a US proposal to elevate the upcoming Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (Apec) to a summit meeting, with Malaysia showing the strongest opposition.

Asean officials could not also agree on a proposal by Malaysia for an East Asian Economic Caucus (EAEC).

During the senior official meetings, Asean officials had not reached a consensus on the two issues and would leave the final decision for their foreign ministers.

Most officials have avoided speaking on the two sensitive issues, which could replace security matters at the top of the meeting's agenda, knowing full well divergent views held by each Asean country.

Pracha Khunakasem, permanent secretary for foreign affairs, said each Asean country will decide whether to attend the proposed Apec summit. Thailand does not object to the idea in principle, but says that it will have to study details of the plan before deciding whether or not to attend the Seattle meeting.

Singapore's Foreign Minister Wong Kan Seng said in an interview that Singapore is willing to attend the Apec summit. Philippine Foreign Minister Roberto Romulo supports the idea without any reservation.

The consultative forum started in 1989 includes Asean members, Australia, Japan, China, Hong Kong and Taiwan.

Malaysia has been at the forefront in opposing an Apec summit, saying it would deviate from Apec's objective of promoting cooperation on trade, services and human resources among countries in the Asia-Pacific rim. Apec is not a negotiating forum, they said.

Kuala Lumpur is in favour of excluding the United States and Australia from the proposed EAEC. Malaysia is still pushing hard to obtain an Asean consensus on the model the forum should follow.

It has said that a summit would institutionalize Apec as a formal trading groups.

According to one Asean source, the most likely model was to link with the Asean economic meeting. Indonegia proposed that the caucus be part of Apec, an idea rejected by Kuala Lumpur.

"It will take a long time for Asean to arrive at a consensus for the EAEC as it is not in the Asean interest to move on this matter so fast," said the source. [passage omitted]

ASEAN Said 'Still Poles Apart Over Burma'

BK2107051793 Bangkok THE NATION in English 21 Jul 93 p A6

[By Kawi Chongkitthawon: "Asean Still Poles Apart Over Burma"]

[Text] At the Asean meeting last year in Manila, the regional foreign ministers hoped that by the time the next annual conference was held in Singapore, the situation in Burma will improve and the country be invited as an observer and hence accede to the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in Southeast Asia.

This however has not happened, with the Asean ministerial meeting due to be held this weekend.

To be fair, in the past one year Burma did make great strides in its effort to return to the fold of the international community, highlighted by its readmission to the Non-aligned Movement last September in Jakarta. The Burmese ruling government, known as the State of Law and Order Restoration Council (Slorc), is hoping that its linkage with Asean would give it an extra shield to ward off Western criticism. In Asia, it seems Asean is the only regional organization that is capable of countering, containing or even rebuffing the West.

In the Manila meeting, the invihtion extended to Burma to attend the Asean meeting developed into an embarrassing situation that brought Asean's disagreement to the surface, despite a concerted effort to conceal it under the disguise of the "constructive engagement policy—which Asean members have officially identified and are using to pursue their own national interests.

Since 1988, the West has been critical of the Burmese regime and pressured Asean to do more in improving democracy and respect of human rights there. In Asean's view, the Western approach has not helped the Burmese situation but hardened it, which the regional grouping fears would lead to a cut of all possible communications with the regime.

It was principally due to some positive developments taken up by the Slorc towards the end of last year such as the release of political prisoners, drafting of a new constitution as well as a series of discussions with minority groups that has made the so-called "Asean way" look credible.

Asean has been using Burma's limited progress in the past year to support its approach and discredit the West's hardline calls urging for the imposition of sanctions. In a similar vein, Burma is hoping its latest so-called progress in human rights would provide sufficient grounds for Asean to invite Burma.

Ironically, the progress still does not warrant an official Asean invitation to attend the Asean annual meeting in Singapore. For one thing, the opposition leader, Aung San Suu Kyi is still under the house arrest for the fifth year. Without her release, it would be hard for Asean to make any radical overtures towards Rangoon.

That explains why the host Singapore has been wise enough not to invite Burma for fear of any possible embarrassment that could repeat itself as in the previous year. Nonetheless, a team of Slorc leaders, led by the strongman Khin Nyunt, was in the island republic for an official visit last month. The delegation received a warm welcome and pledged increased economic assistance and cooperation.

The main factor that goes against Burma now has to do more with the lack of consensus among ASEAN members on the county's ruling military junta than pressure exerted by the West spearheaded by the US and European Community. At a recent meeting of senior officials from Asean and their dialogue partners in Singapore, the US made clear it would not oppose Asean's extended invitation to Rangoon if the orgnization so decides even though Washington would remain vigilant in pressuring Slorc on human rights and democracy.

In other words, the US as well as other dialogue partners to a certain degree do not want fresh quarrels with Asean on Burma since they have plenty of other issues that affect their relations to work on. They rather discuss and talk about positive things rather than "nonstarters" like the Burmese crisis.

Within Asean however, the attitude of individual member countries varies greatly. Malaysia remains adamant in opposing any effort to bring Burma in any form within the Asean framework at this time when Rangoon's treatment of the Muslim-Burmese refugees known as Rohingya, has not yet been satisfactorily settled.

Indonesia and Singapore on the other hand are friendly to the Slorc for different reasons. Jakarta hopes that its political experience, coupled with the strong military involvement in the socio-political sphere of the country would provide a compatible model for Burma's ongoing convention to draft a new constitution. Slorc wants to guarantee a supreme role of the Burmese military and if the endeavour succeeds it would broaden the Indonesian experience in the Southeast Asian context.

Singapore's ties with Burma is unorthodox in the sense that the Singaporeans deem it as pragmatic to conduct trade and carry out investment activities with Slorc. Indeed, it has been able to move in and fill up the void left by Thailand's worsening ties with Burma since last year's conflict over hill 491 on the Thai-Burma border and the upcoming cancellation of logging concessions won by Thai companies at the end of this year.

Finally, Thailand's approach has been the most problematic of all. Bangkok-Rangoon ties have been riddles with inconsistencies and ambiguities.

The well-being in relations between the two countries depends greatly on the happenings along their over 2,000 kilometres common border.

Of late, Thai authorities have been less generous with Burma given the high-strung logging issue. Thailand's ties with the minorities along the Thai-Burma border too have given rise to the problem of demarcation with the Burmese.

In future, Thailand would try to change its approach from the constructive engagement to national reconciliation, in support of Rangoon's effort to make peace with the minorities who now are using Thai territory as sanctuaries. The new strategic blueprint, which will be approved [by] the Cabinet soon points out to the importance of forbidding the use of territory inside the Thai border.

All things considered, differences within Asean over Burma will remain so in the foreseeable future, as long as Slorc does not make enough progress to garner unquestionable international support. Without such foundation being established in Burma, albeit Asean's understanding, it would be hard to integrate Burma within Asean.

Take Cambodia as an example. Asean will extend an invitation to Cambodian Foreign Minister Prince Norodom Sirivut to symbolize Asean's support of the new government that emerged from a free and fair election in May.

By this, it indicates that Burma is the only Southeast Asian country that has no official rapport within the regional framework.

At this juncture there is no reason to believe that both Asean and its dialogue partners would want to confront each other over Slorc's role in the country.

ASEAN Plans Security Forum With Dialogue Partners

BK2107041993 Bangkok THE NATION in English 21 Jul 93 p A5

[Text] Asean will launch a new regional security forum during its annual conference next year in Bangkok that will include its dialogue partners China, Russia, Laos, Vietnam and Papua New Guinea.

Asean officials said their foreign ministers vill hold an informal dinner with their dialogue partners, Asean observers and invited guests to discuss security for the first time.

Next year, this informal meeting will become institutionalized into a consultative forum on regional security. It will become part of future Asean meetings with the dialogue partners and their guests.

The new framework would complement the Asean ministerial meeting and post-ministerial meeting, which includes major powers and other countries such as the United States, Canada, Japan, the European Community, Australia, New Zealand and South Korea.

Papua New Guinea, Laos and Vietnam acceded to the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in Southeast Asia in 1989 and China and Russia have been invited as Asean guests since 1991.

In May, senior Asean officials met with the dialogue partners to discuss regional security issues.

They concluded that key regional players like China and Russia must be included in the discussion.

Beginning next year, China, Russia, Laos, Vietnam and Papua New Guinea will send their senior officials to attend the preparatory meeting as well as participate in the discussion at the ministerial level.

Discussions were held informally about the possibility of inviting major powers to accede to the treaty.

During the preparatory meeting on Monday, Asean officials said China, New Zealand and Australia should be invited to sign the treaty, which obliges the signatories to abstain from resorting to force in settling conflicts.

At a previous summit, Thailand and Singapore supported the idea that the permanent members of UN Security Council be invited to accede to the treaty to prevent them from interfering in regional affairs.

Japan

Sakhalin Officials: 'All' MiG-23's Withdrawn

OW2107015893 Tokyo KYODO in English 1543 GMT 20 Jul 93

[Text] Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk, Russia, July 20 KYODO—Officials of Russia's Sakhalin Province said Tuesday [20 July] all MiG-23 fighter planes deployed on Etorofu, one of four Russian-held islands off Hokkaido claimed by Japan, left the isle around early June. The officials in charge of transportation told KYODO News Service that Russian forces at the same time withdrew air control personnel and takeoff and landing facilities.

According to Japan's Defense Agency, some 40 MiG-23 fighters had been deployed on Etorofu since 1983. The agency said the number of planes had declined to less than 10 as of May.

The agency is taking the stance that it is still uncertain if all the fighters have been withdrawn, but the confirmation by Sakhalin officials indicates they have been pulled out of what Japan calls the northern territories.

Russian President Boris Yeltsin said in May last year Russia would withdraw all its military forces from islands except for border guards.

Mayors of Sea of Japan Coastal Cities Meet

OW2107082993 Tokyo KYODO in English 0425 GMT 21 Jul 93

[Text] Akita, July 21 KYODO—Mayors from 26 Japanese and 15 Russian cities on the Sea of Japan coast began a two-day conference Wednesday [21 July] to promote economic and cultural exchanges, municipal officials here said.

The conference, which is being held in this northern city, is the 14th of its kind. The first round of the conference was held in Khabarovsk in 1970.

Participants from Japanese and Russian cities in the conference include mayors from Akita, Niigata, and Toyama in Japan, and Khabararovsk, Nakhodka, and Irkutsk in Russia.

Aleksandr Panchenko, head of the Russian delegation, said the Asian and Pacific region shares "soil" to strengthen ties among the countries and the cities. He said Russian regional autonomous cities are tackling problems to incorporate laws necessary for a market-oriented economy despite Russia's economic plight.

The mayors are expected to sign a communique at the end of the conference stating their aim to further develop economic and cultural cooperation among the cities.

Prefectures Seek Policy on Illegal Foreign Workers

OW2107105493 Tokyo KYODO in English 1043 GMT 21 Jul 93

[Text] Tokyo, July 21 KYODO—Prefectural governments are demanding that the national government fix a basic policy on dealing with the problems of illegal foreign workers, a survey reported Wednesday [21 July]. The survey, the first of its kind, was conducted by the National Governors' Association on all 47 prefectures in an effort to learn about foreigners working illegally after entering Japan with tourist visas.

The survey showed 24 prefectural governments expect the national government to make a budget allocation for dealing with the illegal workers.

The Justice Ministry said in February that the number of illegal foreigners in Japan rose by about 13,900 in six months to approximately 292,800 as of November 1.

Many of these foreigners are said to be working as manual laborers in small-sized manufacturing concerns or as bar hostesses nationwide. Because of their illegality, those workers cannot receive medical care and other official services.

To counter the problems, the survey said, prefectures replied they have started their own medical and welfare programs for such workers. Eight prefectures, including Tokyo and Kanagawa, have been covering medical expenses left unpaid by foreign workers.

The survey also said many prefectures have set up sections for consulting foreign workers on their labor problems, and some wanted to offer them Japanese-language instructions. Most programs have been established within the past year or two, it said.

Party Heads Discuss Coalition Government

OW1907153293 Tokyo NHK General Television Network in Japanese 1100 GMT 19 Jul 93

[Political debate by Seiroku Kajiyama, secretary general of the Liberal Democratic Party; Sadao Yamahana, chairman of the Social Democratic Party of Japan; Tsutomu Hata, leader of Shinseito; Koshiro Ishida, chairman of Komeito; Morihiro Hosokawa, head of the Japan New Party; Tetsuzo Fuwa, chairman of the Japan Communist Party; Keigo Ouchi, chairman of the Democratic Socialist Party; Masayoshi Takemura, head of Sakigake; and Satsuki Eda, head of the United Social Democratic Party; debate is moderated by NHK commentator Kazuo Okamura; from a special program entitled "First in Series: Through Debate, How Are We Going To Change Politics?" at the NHK studios in Tokyo—live]

[Excerpts] [Okamura] Although the Liberal Democratic Party [LDP] has won almost the same number of seats it had before the election campaign got underway, it is far from holding a majority. Still, does the party intend to stay in power?

[Kajiyama] Unfortunately, we failed to secure a majority of seats. But as the outcome of the election shows, we continue to be the largest party. The LDP wants to be the core of politics and hopes to maintain our policies and power.

[Okamura] Mr. Yamahana, the Social Democratic Party of Japan [SDPJ], suffered a major setback. Do you plan to promote talks on establishing a non-LDP government with other parties?

[Yamahana] Yes. Before I comment I want to apologize to the people for our defeat in the election, from where we start a move to form a coalition government. Since a no-confidence motion against the Miyazawa cabinet was approved, it is natural for us to aim at forming a non-LDP coalition government.

[Okamura] Mr. Hata, concerning the move to form a coalition government, could you specify how you intend to promote this move?

[Hata] Our party plans to speak frankly with other non-LDP forces on this matter. What should be noted is that after the election, the ratio of the seats the LDP is holding in the lower house has decreased to 36.6 percent from the 46.1 percent that it had before the election began, while seven opposition parties, including mine, have grabbed 48.5 percent of the lower house seats. In this regard, I think it is important for opposition parties to form a coaltion government to replace the LDP. We will encounter various problems in forming a coaltion government. To settle these problems, frank exchange of opinions will be needed.

[Okamura] Mr. Ishida, does Komeito also plan to actively participate in efforts to form a coalition government to replace the LDP-led government.

[Ishida] Yes. Taking into account the fact that a series of political corruption cases have urged politicians to discuss political reform, which was unfortunately foiled, I think it is desirable to form a new government to replace the LDP-led government. Based on discussions made at the 27 July meeting of five leaders of non-LDP, non-Japan Communist Party [JCP] forces, I want to promote a move to form a coalition government with other parties. I hope the Japan New Party [JNP] and Sakigake [Harbinger] will join us.

[Okamura] Mr. Hosokawa, what stand are you taking on this move to form a coalition government?

[Hosokawa] Our party gives priority to terminating the LDP's one-party rule. Since the JNP's inauguration last year, we have thought this should be the first thing to do. I think we have almost accomplished our purpose to break the LDP-SDPJ structure. Since the new era, in which it is possible for parties to form a coaltion government, has come, we want to implement our policies while clearly indicating them to the people.

[Okamura] Mr. Fuwa, how are you going to react to this post-election move to form a coaltion?

[Fuwa] Although you call them non-LDP forces, they are not in a position to change the flow of LDP politics because of their political stance. Since last year, a series of political corruption cases, politics tainted by money from enterprises, have occurred. To cleanse Japanese politics, we need to form a reformist government so the flow of LDP politics will change. Our party will stick to this stand.

[Okamura] Mr. Ouchi, your party has said that it will join efforts to form a non-LDP government. Does your party maintain this policy?

[Ouchi] We will make efforts based on this policy. I believe many Japanese people want to change the current Japanese politics. What they have said is that they want to change the current situation in which the LDP has held power for many years. Therefore, I think all political forces, excluding the LDP and the JCP, should make efforts to take power. But these efforts should be made based on a policy agreement.

[Okamura] Mr. Takemura what do you think of forming a new government?

[Takemura] I think the outcome of the election is evidence that the people support the new flow of politics. We are now entering a coalition era. To meet public expectation, political parties should coordinate their differences to unite each other. I feel we should have concrete fundamentals, including basic policies. Based on this idea, our party will sincerely promote talks with other parties.

[Okamura] Mr. Eda, as a glue for unity, how is your party going to act?

[Eda] Let me review the process regarding the general election. The politcal reform attempt was foiled and the House of Representatives adopted a motion of no-confidence in the Miyazawa cabinet, by which we mean that Mr. Miyazawa should resign. But he refused to resign. Instead, he dissolved the House. In this context, in the recent election, the people were asked to choose between the Miyazawa cabinet or the cabinet's resignation. In other words, the election was the repetition of the no-confidence vote. Those parties which voted for the no-confidence should form a new government to replace the Miyazawa administration. By doing so, we will be able to sincerely respond to public expectations. Our party plans to make an all-out effort.

[Passage omitted] [Okamoto] Now, we would like to start discussing the post-election administration. As commentator Yamamoto has just explained, the point at issue now seems to be the question of what approach the two parties, Sakigake [Harbinger] and the Japan New Party [JNP], will take.

Mr. Hosakawa, you have said it is unusual to make a distinction between the LDP and non-LDP forces. However, the reality is that the new administration will be formed with these two forces playing the leading role. Perhaps these two forces will be approaching you one way or another. Based on the three principles of coalition that you have agreed with Sakigake, do you intend not to form a coalition with either of these two forces?

[Hosokawa] That is not necessarily right. I have repeatedly said the LDP's one-party domination has to come to an end. The system has finally started to break down. The curtain has just dropped on the first act, and it has been raised for the second act now. Therefore, I feel the point at issue is how to deal with the new situation.

As far as Japan is concerned, we can say that it has now entered the age of the multiple-party coalition. In such circumstances, as Mr. Okamura just mentioned, Japanese politics is in the process of becoming more mature now. To form a flexible yet sound coalition, it will be necessary for concerned parties to set forth and discuss clear-cut policies, and politics will become mature through such a process. I feel that the situation has now become very favorable.

[Okamoto] Of course, it means that talks will start soon. Is that right?

[Hosokawa] Yes, that's right.

[Okamoto] Mr. Hata, do you plan to hold talks with the JNP and Sakigake?

[Hata] Well, as far as Sakigake and the JNP are concerned, we are comrades because we have worked together and taken the same action so far. We are now at a historical juncture, at the same time that the world is undergoing major changes now. It is important to make a change. In that sense, I am willing to exchange frank opinions with Hosokawa and Takemura.

[Okamura] Mr. Kajiyama, perhaps the LDP also places its hope on these two parties. What do you have to say?

[Kajiyama] Well, since we share common bases in our doctrines and policies, it would be very easy to form a coalition. However, when past events are considered as well, it is true that criticism has been made against not policies but corruption. As far as the party is concerned, it should first carry out internal reform. Based on that self-reform, a coalition may then be possible.

[Okamura] Mr. Takemura, both the LDP and Mr. Hata have just mentioned that they share common bases with your group. What do you think of it?

[Takemura] If doctrines mean liberalism and support of the market economy, I feel it can be said that all of us, except the communist party, share common doctrines. I think this is what they mean. However, it is not our intention to keep out of the fray together with Mr. Hosokawa. Neither do we plan to act as a good guy holding the casting vote. We intend to take the riskiest course of action.

We plan to start talks between the two parties soon, possibly within this week. We plan to work out three or four major policies, which will be firm and detailed and include practical political strategy related to the idea of a coalition government. Based on these policies, we would like to call on other parties to cooperate. We have started doing such work and we would like you to pay attention to our work. We are in earnest. We are well aware that our people also have a great interest in a non-LDP administration and we will do our utmost to make it possible.

[Okamura] Mr. Hosakawa, in reviewing the three principles, I noted an item which says that no coalition will be formed with the LDP because it has wrecked efforts to promote political reform. Has there been any change on this point?

[Hosokawa] It is just as we have stated.

[Okamura] Do you mean that if the nature of the party changes, coalition will become possible...

[Hosokawa, interrupting] As Mr. Kajiyama is here, it is very difficult for me to talk about the nature of the party, but I don't think it can easily change. Therefore, we cannot say that its nature has changed just because the top executives have been replaced. I don't think it is that easy.

[Okamura] Mr. Takemura, if the party head was replaced and the top executives changed, would you still say that the LDP had not changed its nature?

[Takemura] Yes, that is right [as heard]. On such issues as the reform of the electoral system, for example, I am sure that a compromise bill can be worked out among various parties, with the exception of the communist party, if we take into account the atmosphere noted at the committee session at the last Diet, and if discussions are conducted in an earnest way.

We would submit a firm plan on this particular point, which would be more or less similar to the proposal for a combined electoral system of single-seat and proportional representation constituencies. As for the issue of company contributions, even if the system is not abolished immediately, we feel that conditions should be worked out first and that it is then gradually phased out. We would make practical proposals like these.

However, even if coordination can be worked out on these points, we are not sure if Mr. Kajiyama is prepared to say the LDP will be overhauled and whether it will seriously handle such issues as reform of the electoral system, and the political fund system.

Maybe it will be very difficult to deal with them because the party will split. In discussions with Mr. Hosakawa I have said it will not be easy.

[Okamura] Mr. Kajiyama, you have insisted that the LDP will be reborn after the general election.

[Kajiyama] As I said earlier, a political party cannot change overnight. After all, there will be no major change in the people who make up the party. On the topic of one-party rule, continuing in government a long time means remaining in power a long time. And remaining in power a long time means that the people in office tend to get tempted by interests offered by other people. Sometimes, the people in office actively pursue interests on the side. That is how people become corrupted.

As Mr. Hosokawa said one-party rule has collapsed. Certainly, the party failed to muster a majority. This may mean that the party cannot remain in power and continue with its policies without the support of opposition parties, but it will also mean its actions will be checked by outside forces. This, in turn, will mean that the party itself has to incorporate checks within itself, or there is no way it can continue in power.

So, although the party suffered at the elections, it can be said that the party has also earned a chance to reform itself. All of you, gentlemen, have your own views on that, but at least there is no change in the fact that the LDP remains the major party in politics. I feel many people in our country want the LDP to reform itself. The party will daringly respond to that wish. We will carry out reform in cooperation with people from other parties who share the same policies. That is our evaluation and what we want to try to achieve. [NHK reporter's report on views of audience omitted]

[Okamura] Many phone calls and facsimile messages received just now suggested that the LDP should do some soul-searching and step down from power this time. What is your comment on that?

[Kajiyama] Even within the party there are people who think we should step down from power. That would be possible if it was a matter concerning individuals. They can accept their responsibility in that way. Chairman Ouchi earlier said that stepping down would be to the benefit of the LDP itself. But there remains the question of whether it would be for the benefit of the people.

After all, while people talk about changes, reform, and the party stepping down from power, there is no mention made of what needs to be changed and how. When change is planned, research must be done on what is needed to make the change and the effects of the change on the nation. I do not think a political group can or should change substantially until this research is completed. Looked at this way, it then becomes clear we should not step down from power. The people have chosen our party as the major party. We must carry out the responsibilities assigned to us by the people.

[Okamura] In a news conference today Mr. Miyazawa talked a lot about the need for the party to be unified. But there are powerful voices saying he should accept responsibility and resign. Mr. Kajiyama, what do you think Mr. Miyazawa will do?

[Kajiyama] I do not know what other people are thinking. But I have worked closely to him and he has an old-fashioned way of looking at things. As well as prime minister of a government, he is also president of a party. Even though, frankly, he might well be thinking he would be happy to resign today, he cannot abandon his responsibilities. The LDP is the No. 1 party and of all the parties commands the largest support of the people. He has to consider how he can meet the expectations of the people. He is tormented, sandwiched between these two choices. That is what I think.

[Okamura] I would now like to discuss the question of whether the LDP should step down, and how the LDP and other parties face each other now. Mr. Miyazawa noted that the LDP mustered three times as many seats as the SDPJ. Mr. Yamahana of the SDPJ, do you still believe the LDP should step down?

[Yamahana] We have maintained that position for a long time. To hear the LDP general secretary today, it is clear that the LDP wants to retain one-party rule for as long as possible. And there is the attitude—should I call it arrogance—that only his party can govern. He kept on talking about stability time and again. That is all I could hear.

Some people said the recent election has brought about changes in three areas. The general secretary himself said the substance of the reforms was political reform, but that is an abstract expression. I cannot not see what it really means, but they are probably saying that stability will not be possible without the LDP, and, therefore, they should not step down. That is probably the prevailing feeling among people in the LDP. But the reason why they failed to win a majority in the general election was because the voters did not agree with the party in that respect.

The party should step down without hesitation, respecting the judgment passed by the people of the nation. I am sure that is what the people want the party to do. [passage omitted]

[Okamura] Mr. Ouchi of the DSP, I would like to have your comment on two questions. The first concerns whether or not the LDP should step down and the other concerns the possibility of a coalition government. A survey conducted recently showed that a considerable number of people—about 43 percent of the respondents—favored a coalition between the LDP and other parties. What is your view on the possibility of your party entering into a coalition with the LDP?

[Ouchi] During a number of programs, I have said to Mr. Kajiyama that he should step down. Earlier in this program, a man in the audience said that it is desirable to look at things from the viewpoint of establishing a sound two-party system in this nation. I think it was a respectable view. The political reform we are talking about now has two purposes—one is to remove corruption and the other is to lay the groundwork for the transfer of government power. When seen in that perspective, the LDP's position that it must retain its position in government, despite its failure to win a majority in the election, does not meet either of these requirements.

We have to view the situation from a broader point of view. Mr. Kajiyama said it will not benefits the people if his party steps down. But I think it is desirable that the party steps down—from the viewpoint of benefiting the people as well as benefiting the LDP. I have always said so. Naturally, I am not thinking about forming a government in cooperation with a party which I think should step down. [Passage on Sakigake head Takemura about the question of the LDP's stepping down omitted]

[Okamura] Mr. Takemura, earlier you and Mr. Hosokawa said your parties will not cooperate with the LDP or the Keisei-Kai. But suppose the fundamental construction of the LDP has undergone a change, and, for instance, both the resident and four party executives of the party have been reshuffled. Even when that happens, can you still not cooperate with the party?

[Takemura] What is called ideology or our and their basic ideas are not so different. What counts is the party's way of doing things, and it is completely different from the way we do things. We have made it clear that we cannot cooperate with that party as long as the party does not change that. As I see the matter now, I think it will be difficult for the party to get away from the practice anytime soon. But, on the other hand, the question on stepping down must be asked of the other forces—non-LDP forces—too. If the non-LDP forces were in unity, the LDP would probably step down readily. But Mr. Kajiyama and his people think the other forces can never unify. That is why they can talk the way they do now. No doubt, the non-LDP forces have won a majority in the election. But the forces must make efforts to unify themselves soon, and thus show their unity to the people.

[Okamura] Mr. Takemura, to repeat my question, if the LDP says it will sweep its leadership clear and will reform its way of doing things—while, admittedly, it is not so easy to change its old habits—, and asks your party to cooperate with the LDP if not in forming a coalition, then as an outsider of the cabinet, will you still reject the offer?

[Takemura] Our side is in disarray. We need to put our forces in order. We need to see the base secured first.

[Okamura, interrupting] [indistinct passage, with Okamura and Takemura speaking simultaneously, omitted]

[Takemura] In that case, we will have to make a choice in advance. But we will not join the cabinet. Still, my policy or the policy of the party is not that we must go an anti-LDP way by all means.

[Okamura] So this does not mean you are an anti-LDP by all means?

[Takemura] You are right.

[Okamura] What is your comment on that point, Mr. Hosokawa?

[Hosokawa] I think the old habits of the party—like the forming of factions or retaining so-called Zoku Dietmen [Dietmen representing interests of certain segments of industry]—are things that cannot be changed so readily. I know because I was with the party once, and I am talking about this with a sense of remorse as well. I think the desirable thing to happen in Japan's politics is for the LDP to step down so that the conditions for the transfer of power can be made. From that perspective and also for the benefit of the LDP, I think the party should step down. [passage omitted]

[Okamura] Mr. Kajiyama, all the opposition parties have said the LDP should step down. Will you comment, please?

[Kajiyama] The typical Japanese custom would be that of clearly putting an end to everything. But, however small it may be, the LDP has regained its popularity in the latter stage of the election when the people came to realize that opposition parties did not have a policy on such basic matters as diplomacy, security, and energy. I think the opposition parties were rather thoughtless. It was like asking the people to buy aircraft or automobiles without showing designs for them. [passage omitted]

[Okamura] I would like to turn the discussion to the non-LDP coalition—whether or not it is possible to form such a coalition. This was one of the focal points in the general election, and was favored in the opinion poll a while ago. Let me ask Komeito's Mr. Ishida first. The SDPJ, Shinseito, Komeito, DSP, and USDP are talking about forming a non-LDP coalition government. Although I personally think this is a bit premature.... [pauses] The special Diet session will be convened shortly, and the question of electing the prime minister will need to be addressed. Whom is the Komeito thinking of supporting as candidate for prime minister—although I have a feeling I know the answer.

[Ishida] I will speak straightforwardly. On 27 June, there was a meeting of the leaders of five opposition parties. Based on [what was decided at] the meeting, we would also like to seek the cooperation of JNP and Sakigake. When it comes to experience in holding political power, Shinseito should put forth a candidate. The reason is, at present, our efforts are directed at inducing politics to develop in a new direction. This will be for the sake of accelerating and reinforcing this movement. Furthermore, the people will feel more secure about such an arrangement. When it comes to the question of whom to support as candidate for prime minister, we would like to act based on that thinking.

[Okamura] The SDPJ's Mr. Yamahana, regarding the present question about the candidate for prime minister...[pauses] The SDPJ is the biggest party [among the five parties], and there has been criticism all along that the proposed coalition is an alliance of convenience [yago—similar to common law marriage] with no agreement on basic policy. Please comment on these two points.

[Yamahana] First, regarding the criticism that we are an alliance of convenience, during the election campaign, I refuted the LDP directly. If you take into account the concrete things we did [at the 27 June meeting], the five parties, through legitimate procedures, reached agreement on electoral cooperation, basic policy for new politics, and creating a consultative body to discuss various issues after the election. Since the election is over, we have called for a discussion first, among the five parties, and if possible, to be joined by the Sakigake, JNP, and Minkakuren [Minshu Kaikaku Rengo, Alliance for Democratic Reform]. All parties have spelled out their policies during the election; Chairman Ishida has issued a statement; and Shinseito has also declared its policies. Since [the coalition is being built] on the accumulation of such efforts, I can assure you that it will absolutely not be an alliance of convenience.

With regard to the nominee for prime minister, this is one question we are going to discuss soon. If the basic principle is that the number-one party should take up the responsibility, since the SDPJ is the number one opposition party, and the overall number two party, we, of course, have to assume the responsibility. We will work actively for this. However, right now, the question is to create a political regime to replace the LDP regime. Toward this end, we are willing to respect the decision to be made at the meeting called for this purpose.

[Okamura] Let me clarify. While Mr. Yamahana, being the leader of the number one opposition party, should be the nominee, you are being flexible about the matter.

[Yamahana] Basically, that is our thinking. The discussion will begin shortly...

[Okamura interrupts] I see. LDP's Mr. Kajiyama, you mentioned "yago" a while ago. Can you explain more concretely why you call [the proposed coalition] "yago"?

[Kajiyama] Right now, the preelection agreement among the five parties has been mentioned. However, electoral cooperation cannot be called a policy. Neither is the agreement to talk about basic issues after the election a basic policy. Nevertheless, they are talking about advancing together, or joining forces. I wonder which way they will go. Looking at the policies and political program adopted by the SDPJ so far, or the policy choices it has taken so far—for instance, refusal to accept the Japan-U.S. security setup, or that the Self-Defense Forces [SDF] are unconstitutional but legal—as long as such questions are not clarified one by one, we cannot have peace of mind. Therefore, I hope your party leaders will spell out your views and talk them over. As long as you are unable to do so, we continue to be concerned—even if you cal l this unnecessary concern. This is a very important matter. We are not saying you have to spell this out to the LDP; you have to spell this out to the people. Each party should take responsibility for what it does. Otherwise, we will have a terrible situation.

The red lamp [indicating time is up] is on, but may I have a little bit more time? I will be brief. Listening to the arguments so far, it seems that the other parties claim that even if there will be social instability and confusion, they would like to take the non-LDP course. For us, who have experienced the past war, I think these people are just too fortunate to be born in an era like this. I can feel that they take things too lightly, and is this [the coalition] worth that much to them? I hope they understand the fact that once chaos occurs, dealing with the aftermath and restoring the balance will be very difficult.

[Okamura] Komeito's Mr. Ishida, with regard to the issues of agreement on basic policy being discussed now, the word "yago" has been used. What do you have to say?

[Ishida] The Komeito, DSP, SDPJ, and USDP have held discussions on the formation of a coalition government for many years. That process has been in place. That is one point I would like to make.

I certainly think that policy is vital for each political party. Therefore, we absolutely agree that when a coalition government is to be formed, a very accurate blueprint is necessary. However, in reality, when a coalition government is formed, we will face the major issue of drafting a budget. Under such a situation, policy discussions among various parties will have to be much more rigorous in reality. On the other hand, if we fail to do so, this would mean that the formation of a coalition government is not realistic. In that sense, I believe we will be able to do so. Furthermore, in the context of a coalition government, as we go along, the development of events will further influence the policies agreed upon by the various parties. I believe that is how we will carry on.

[Okamura] Mr. Hata, as we see it, there is a wide gap between the policies of Shinseito and the SDPJ, for instance, on security, defense, and the PKO issue. Are you not concerned?

[Hata] I am not at all concernced with such a gap. People may say I am being too optimistic. In the post-cold-war period, the world has changed drastically. Take the PKO issue as an example. At that time, the SDPJ adopted the ox walk filibustering tactic. Their Diet members even threatened to resign. However, the people have sternly criticized them. In view of that, the SDPJ is also in a process of change.

Furthermore, regarding the last budget. In view of the economic recession, it was felt that we would have to do everything to salvage the economy. For the first time in a long time, the budget was passed before the Diet session ended. In that sense, the SDPJ is becoming realistic. If I may exaggerate a bit, Mr. Yeltsin of Russia, and Mr. Clinton of the United States—these are precisely the citadels of socialism and capitalism—they have hugged each other and agreed to create a new world order, and agreed to cooperate. In an era where the world is talking about assisting Russia in its transition to a market economy, in a period of maturation and stability, I think there is nothing wrong [with a change of regime]. I think change has priority, and I think we can make it.

[Okamura] Mr. Yamahana, may I ask you a question? During the election campaign, Prime Minister Miyazawa repeatedly asked if a party claiming the SDF is unconstitutional would be able to draw up the national budget. Can you answer in concrete terms?

[Yamahana] I will make two points. First, undoubtedly, when a coalition government is formed, the implementation of political reform that will eliminate corruption will be the top priority. However, that is not all. With regard to the budget for the next fiscal year, we will spell out everything in very specific terms.

The second point can be best understood by mentioning what we have been able to do in the past. Last year, when I was secretary general, the SDPJ, Komeito, DSP, and USDP presented amendments to the budget bill. At that time, we summarized our views on appropriations for the SDF. We presented the proposal that in view of the peace dividends, Japan's defense budget should be reduced gradually. While we are accused of having diverse views, at that time, we were able to present a common bill to amend the budget. Although Mr. Miyazawa responded then with the ambiguous expression that he would consider our proposal positively, and left the matter at that, nevertheless, it was an achievement for us. We have been able to come up with a common proposal for the most difficult issue. Therefore, there is no reason to be concerned.

[Okamura] The DSP's Mr. Ouchi, while the DSP is a member of this non-LDP coalition, you have long been the strongest critic of the SDPJ's foreign and defense policies. Do you think agreement will be possible in this area?

[Ouchi] Before this, let me say that the agreement of five party leaders on 27 June does not amount to a coalition. It was an agreement on electoral cooperation, and there was no mention at all about a coalition. I hope this is well understood. Therefore, our position is: Since we demand that the LDP give up power, there should be a coalition government which the people can trust. Trust means having viable policies. We need to present our common policies to the people. In this regard, for instance, foreign policy and policies on defense, energy, or PKO, if we look at the policies that the SDPJ upholds at present, there are still many problematic points. I suppose that is why Mr. Yamahana says he wants to push bold and drastic changes. This means that there is need to make changes. Therefore, the question will be what sort of conclusions will be made. In case a coalition is to be formed, the issues of whether the Japan-U.S. Security Pact will be accepted as necessary for Japan, whether a minimum number of SDF forces will be accepted as a constitutional entity, and whether nuclear energy will be accepted as indispensable until the next substitute energy source is developed will have to be clarified; otherwise, the people cannot trust us. What I am saying is that the SDPJ should clarify the above points.

[Okamura] So, Mr. Yamahana, I have to repeat the same question, but this is a very important issue. Could you briefly explain this point?

[Yamahana] In our proposal for a coalition government, we clarified our positions on important issues such as the Japan-U.S. Security Treaty, Japan-ROK relations, the Self Defense Forces [SDF], and nuclear energy. Another important point is that we are seeking a coalition but not a party merger. We have our own opinions, but once we form a coalition government we will pay respect to interparty accords. [passage omitted] My conclusion is that if efforts are made from now on, reaching an agreement is possible.

[Okamura] Even if you take such a realistic stance, the SDPJ still has ultraleftists in the party. Don't you worry about their moves against the coalition?

[Yamahana] That question really puzzled until recently, but I am no longer concerned.

[Ouchi] I am terribly sorry to hear about the defeat of the SDPJ since we had a similar experience. Some SDPJ members actually said the defeat was due to Mr. Yamahana's support for existing diplomatic and defense policies. That is also a problem for us. The SDPJ leadership must eliminate such internal disturbance or we will be unable to have confidence in an alliance with the SDPJ. [passage omitted]

[Hata] Ms. Oya just questioned whether Shinseito's break with the LDP is a result of an internal power struggle. We might give such an impression to the public, but it is not true. Four or five years ago I took charge of the LDP's task force on political reform, and at that time my task force exposed the ill effects of prolonged one-party rule. This is written in the LDP's political reform guideline, but the LDP twice failed to initiate our proposal. During the last Diet session, political reform bills were proposed to win back the public's confidence in politics. Therefore, scrapping the bills will boost public distrust in the nation's democracy.

[Oya] I would have believed that if you had left the LDP when you formed the Reform Forum 21 [or the LDP Hata faction]. I was very frustrated with seeing your new faction stay in the LDP. It seems Shinseito was formed because you had to follow Sakigake's brave decision....

[Hata, interrupting] That is not true. Unlike Sakigake, we voted for the no-confidence motion against the Miyazawa cabinet. Every member of our group had to be resolved to leave the LDP. I beg you to understand that today's political situation could not be realized without our action. You said the opposition should positively adjust its differences in its basic stance or the coalition will soon break up like the Katayama administration [in 1947]. However, we had to hold elections immediately after the foundation of the party.

Rather than dealing with policy issues now, we will have to prevent intensifying distrust in politics first. Otherwise, we will have problems in pursuing democracy. Under such circumstances, we took action to establish a position that will make it easier for people to understand. That is the very reason why we were not able, in that situation, to explain our policies in detail then.

However, I feel that what may be of interest is the fact that, as Mr. Eda just mentioned, discussions on policies will be held in the open and will be visible to all people. We will not hold discussions just within the LDP, where they are invisible to others. I feel that our people will be better able to observe our discussions this time.

The background of the times is completely different than during the Katayama administration's. This is because we are now in the post-cold-war age, and more and more drastic concessions are being made now. In my opinion, it will basically not do for the SDPJ, which is trying to obtain political power, if it fails to overcome these problems. Nevertheless, I hope that it will have the courage to overcome them anyway. [passage omitted]

[Okamura] Mr. Yamahana, in part one of this debate, Mr. Takemura pointed out a few issues without expecting you to answer them, and just now, Mr. Hata pointed out that your party has not been in power since the collapse of the Katayama cabinet 45 years ago. The collapse was a result of a party rebellion in the leftist faction, wasn't it? As we asked you earlier, are you still concerned over the rebellion?

[Yamahana] We do not have to worry about it now. Come to think of it, regarding the issues that have been pointed out just now and also regarding efforts to work out an accord on policies in connection with the coalition, I feel that there has been sufficient rehearsal. Let me explain this point further.

When Ms. Takako Doi was our party chairperson, we won a victory in the election and were able to hold the majority in the House of Councillors. Supraparty consultations were held among opposition Diet members to work out bills. In the past, government-proposed bills used to be worked out by bureaucrats. Thus, bills prepared by opposition parties were submitted to the House of Councillors. [passage omitted]

It should also be noted that we have made all these achievements, and I feel that we have already had sufficient training in open and frank discussions to exchange views with each other.

[Okamura] Mr. Ishida, people are aware that there are considerable differences in basic policies between the SPDJ and other parties. However, concerning this gap, optimistic views have been expressed, and it has been said that this issue can be settled easily. Nevertheless, I feel that it may invoke further doubts among people. Some of you just said that you do not have sufficient time for consultations because you have to appear on television programs. Therefore, I think it will be necessary to make the basic policies known as soon as possible. What is your opinion on this?

[Ishida] Well, I did touch on this point earlier. If we are going to be in charge of the government, it is very important that an accord should be reached on government policies. Personally, I feel that final-moment consultations will have to be conducted. At least we will have to work out the basic framework for the policies at this juncture to make people feel at ease. Otherwise, it will be very difficult to start the coalition.

[Okamura] You mean a sense of feeling at ease.

[Ishida] Right.

[Okamura] Mr. Ouchi, please.

[Ouchi] When I listened to what Mr. Yamahana said, I understood what he discussed in general terms; however, people may still have some doubts, and I think it is because no clear-cut statements have been made on important issues.

For example, the results of the opinion poll conducted just now indicate that 57 percent of respondents demand an accord on basic policies. Diplomacy and defense issues cover huge areas. When asked to approve the framework connected with these fields, the SPDJ will have to clearly state that it approves, for example, the Japanese-U.S. Security Treaty. Also, it should admit that the Self-Defense Forces [SDF] do exist and are constitutional. As for energy-related issues, it should admit that nuclear power is indispensable until a substitute energy has been developed.

This is not what I alone have to say, but it will be turned into party policy, and I will take responsibility for it.

If he had made these remarks, I think our people would understand. He said that in working out the draft budget, the party did not try to cut SDF expenses. I do not think this is what people are concerned about. Their views on such issues should be clearly stated.

Since our party is not a new one, I do not mean that if an accord is not reached on all details, we cannot work together. Forming a coalition government means concluding policy agreements. Just as Mr. Hosokawa has mentioned, what I have been trying to point out is that this point is still ambiguous.

[Okamura] It is quite clear now. Well, Mr. Yamahana, we will have to ask you this question again, despite the fact the same question has been repeated. Mr. Hosokawa said that it will take time before people feel at ease, and Mr. Ouchi asked whether the Japanese-U.S. Security Treaty will be approved, the SDF will be confirmed as constitutional, and nuclear power stations will be accepted. He also asked whether these issues will be incorporated in the party's policy. What is your view now?

[Yamahana] I understand that there are some differences in the details concerning the remarks made by these two leaders. Our party has its traditional policies, as well as its policies on the coalition issue. Regarding the coalition policies, we maintain that we will respect whatever accord is reached.

Regarding the SDF issue, for example, its activities must be confined to our territory or our territorial skies and seas, and the civilian control system should be carried out precisely. The National Defense Program Outlines and the Mid-Term Defense Buildup Program, which are products of the cold war, will have to be revised, and military expenditures will have to be cut.

Based on this position, we will directly deal with the issue of the SDF's actual existence, and if a coalition is formed, we will bring up these issues for discussion; however, we have been saying that we will respect the coalition's accord.

As a political party, we have our own ideals and objectives; however, we feel that the urgent political task at present is to form an administration to replace the LDP. If efforts must be focused on this task, we would like, in this sense, to respect as much as possible the accord reached on forming a coalition government. We have already made clear our position on this point, and we hope that our people can understand this position.

[Okamura] Mr. Ouchi, please give your short and frank comments on what Mr. Yamahana just said. Are you satisfied with his explanation now?

[Ouchi] No. I do not think that our people will ever feel satisfied. [passage omitted]

[Unidentified reporter] From Osaka, we have a question for DSP Chairman Ouchi. Mr. Umino runs a small business in Osaka. Mr. Umino, please.

[Umino] Mr. Ouchi, I am a DSP supporter. After listening to the debate so far, I feel that it would be difficult for the LDP and anti-LDP forces to form a coalition. Now that the SDPJ has lost so many seats, I do not think there will be any coalition now. Rather, for the DSP to promote its policies, I feel that maybe a coalition should be formed with Komeito and the LDP. I do not think it is desirable to refuse a proposal for a coalition on the basis of being either anti-LDP or non-LDP. I think perhaps it will be better to set forth more realistic policies. What do you think?

[Ouchi] I have been saying during the election campaign that we need to form a coalition, for which the people can feel at ease. From a viewpoint of changing Japan's politics, it is very important for us to bring the LDP's one-party domination to an end. As a result of our appeals, this has become a reality now.

We are now asking the LDP that for the sake of making democracy in Japan genuine, it should give up its power without a fight. May I use the term going out of power [geya] here? [laughter]

In other words, it will be more desirable for the LDP, shall I say, to go out of power? This is what I have been saying. And I have been saying that we have quite realistic policies among opposition parties. I have never said that a coalition should be formed among the five parties.

There is not much difference between our policies and the policies of Hosokawa and Takemura. Also, I think that to change Japanese politics now, it is very important to form a coalition with these people. Therefore, I say that efforts, first of all, must be made, and we are making such efforts now. Whether the concept can actually be carried out will not be known until more discussions are held. Depending on the discussion results, we will still have to consider various matters. This is what I can say so far.

[Passage omitted] [Yamamoto] Mr. Hosokawa, according to the opinion poll results discussed just a while ago, and the opinions of our audience from all over Japan, it seems that the majority thinks the JNP should cooperate with the non-LDP group. What do you think?

[Hosokawa] During the election campaign, I also felt that such sentiments were quite strong, and I am sufficiently aware of them; however, one cannot say that as long as it is non-LDP, anything will do. As I said before, I think it will be better to do things by following proper procedures. It will not be good if we are suspected of engaging in under-the-table transactions or dango [bid-rigging] even before submitting to people's judgment. We still have time before the special Diet session is convened. Therefore, we believe each party should discuss and outline their policies and beliefs clearly in a form comprehensible to the people. The various parties should debate and negotiate and see whether they can reach an agreement. I do not think the conclusion that we should join the non-LDP forces should come before this process. That would be contrary to the proper order of things.

[Okamura] Mr. Takemura, a member of the audience in Osaka expressed the opinion that you should support non-LDP forces. What do you say to that?

[Takemura] In politics, there are no absolutes. In West Germany, there used to be a grand coalition—although this has never been discussed here in Japan. This is actually possible, for instance, during a certain transition period, or when dealing with a major national issue. I think it is wrong to say something is absolutely right or necessary. We can feel by ourselves the people's strong desire for a non-LDP political regime. We intend to do our best. Actually, we have started taking action today. First, we will appeal to the non-LDP parties. We will not wait for them to bring us their proposals, but will actively present our own proposals. We would like to engage in active dialogue.

However, if facing the question of whether we should join forces, even if the basic policies are incompatible, and the conditions are too disparate, I guess the only thing we can do is to try our best. [passage omitted on opinion poll]

[Yamamoto] Mr. Takemura, a while ago Mr. Hosokawa said that there should be no premature conclusion to joining the non-LDP forces; however, looking at the opinion poll results, more than 50 percent want your party to cooperate with the non-LDP forces. How do you interpret these figures?

[Takemura] I sincerely accept them as an expression of people's expectations. I do not think I need to repeat here that we will try our very best in that direction. What Mr. Hosokawa and I are saying is that there should be no presumption from the very beginning that there is only one course we ought to take, and that we have no other options. We want to keep our options open. I think, while we are merely talking from common sense, this has been viewed as some form of ambiguity. We feel like we are being forced to state whether we will do it or not, or whether we mean yes or no. I think it is preferable to have some room to maneuver.

In the next seven to 10 days, we hope people will keep a close watch on our actions. We intend to make an effort to live up to such surveillance.

[Okamura] Mr. Hosokowa, let me go into concrete detail. When the special Diet session opens, and the election of the prime minister is held, during the first round of balloting, I suppose you will support either Mr. Hosokawa or Mr. Takemura. The question is, what will you do in the final runoff vote? I think it will be a difficult decision to make. Would you consider abstaining?

[Hosokawa] I do not know what will happen on the political scene from now on. I cannot give a thoughtless answer now; however, I suppose there is very little possibility of abstention.

[Yamamoto] Mr. Takemura, in case you opt for abstention, the LDP regime will continue....

[Takemura, interrupting] By abstention, do you mean casting a blank vote?

[Yamamoto] Yes, a blank vote.

[Takemura] Theoretically, that is possible. However, the two of us just agreed this morning that we will exert our utmost efforts so that we will not have to take that option.

[Yamamoto] We can expect some form of declaration of your stand?

[Takemura] Yes. That is why we are engaging in serious discussions with various parties on policies and our political stance. We will try our best.

[Yamamoto] You will be doing this until the special Diet session opens?

[Takemura] Yes.

[Yamamoto] Mr. Takemura, you often talk about a third path. Basically, do you mean building a new political force capable of taking over power, eventually centering on the Sakigake-JNP?

[Takemura] Compared to Mr. Hosokawa, I have not used the expression the third path that frequently. Our parties take slightly different positions on this. Sakigake members have only recently left the LDP. Each one of us made a decision, and we are a unified group. Rather than participating in the political regime immediately, we would like to work patiently and experience two or three more elections. That is what we think, and that is why we did not react immediately to the issue of taking over political power. We hope you understand our feelings as a newly born political party. In the future, we would like to build another viable political force outside the LDP that is capable of assuming political power, and we intend to be the core of such a political force. That is the ambition of all 10 Sakigake members. That was our party's starting point.

[Okamura] Komeito's Mr. Ishida, Messrs. Hosokawa and Takemura just said that they would like the people to watch their actions closely in the next seven to 10 days, and that they would certainly come up with a definite stand. On the part of the Komeito, how would you persuade them? What would be your line of argument?

[Ishida] You have mentioned the issue of the third path. Until recently, the Komeito has precisely acted as one party in the trilateral structure. We were the middle of the road force in the 1955 political setup for a long time. However, after the collapse of the cold war structure, I believe such a setup has disintegrated. In such a situation, I think a third path is easier said than done. In that sense, now is a crucial point for political change. I hope Messrs. Hosokawa and Takemura would place their emphasis on this point when they consider things.

The greatest issue after the recent election is, after all, political reform. We need to implement political reforms, including a reform of the electoral system. The question is how to implement such reforms—for instance, should we push the "Renyo" system?—and advance from there. Otherwise, there will be no future for us.

[Okamura] Mr. Eda, would you care to comment on Mr. Ishida's line of argument in seeking the JNP and Sakigake's cooperation?

[Eda] Well, there is the question of procedures. There have been criticisms against the 27 June meeting. However, after the election was held, the people have issued their verdicts. Then, what comes next? I remember Mr. Takemura suggested during the election campaign that a meeting of seven parties be held to discuss policy. I have also proposed the same thing during the campaign. If the JNP and Sakigake think that it is not fair to presume their participation in the non-LDP coalition when discussing the question of a coalition government—although personally I think having a premise for discussion at the beginning is also one way of doing things—then we can start with policy discussions. There is the issue of political reform. We also have to talk about Japan's position in the international community, economic management, the economic recession, and the building of a consumer-oriented society. I think general discussions will be possible. We can start from there, and other things will follow. [passage omitted on Fuwa's criticism of Shinseito]

[Okamura] Mr. Fuwa, this is not in relation to what you are talking about. The JCP is saying the non-LDP coalition government will not be any better. Are you saying that in case of a runoff vote, you will abstain and will not vote for either side?

[Fuwa] Most probably. We will not vote for people representing the policies of the LDP...

[Okamura, interrupting] I see. You will vote for neither. [passage omitted]

[Okamura] Mr. Kajiyama, let me return to the previous topic. You intend to continue to assume political power. Since you do not hold a majority of Diet seats, you need to cooperate with other parties. Do you intend to go by a coalition government, or by a so-called "partial coalition" wherein the LDP is the lone ruling party working with the cooperation of other parties?

[Kajiyama] Both cases are possible.

[Passage omitted] [Okamura] You have just heard the results of the opinion poll, opinions phoned into the studio, and views from our audience all over Japan. Toward the end of part one of this program today, how would each party react to such popular voices? May I have a short comment from each of you? The USDP's Mr. Eda, please.

[Eda] I have a feeling that the people understand more fully than we do the significance of a change of political regime. They know how much local autonomy has been undermined by the LDP's one-party rule, how much the people suffered from injustices, and lots of other things. A mere change of regime can bring in fresh air and transparency to the political world. I think we need to meet such expectations. I recently came into conflict with Mr. Fuwa, so I hate to say this. But Mr. Fuwa likes to draw his own lines. This will not do. The important thing now is to draw the line between the LDP and the non-LDP forces, and whether or not we will assume political power in the Diet.

[Okamura] We do not have much time, so please make it brief. Sakigake's Mr. Takemura.

[Takemura] It is said that power brings about corruption. The LDP, with its 38-year-long rule, particularly through its recent handling of the political reform bills, has proven the validity of this saying quite splendidly. At that point, we decided to leave the LDP and start anew. In the next two weeks, we will work seriously to meet the people's expectations.

[Okamura] The DSP's Mr. Ouchi.

[Ouchi] Listening to the people's opinions, it has become clear that the dominant view is that they want a coalition government formed by parties other than the LDP and the JCP. However, another dominant opinion is that, as a prerequisite to such a coalition, agreement on basic policies should be given due importance. Based on such popular opinions, the DSP intends to do its very best.

[Okamura] The JCP's Mr. Fuwa.

[Fuwa] I have come to confirm once again the people's very strong indignation, demand, and discontent against the distorted LDP political framework characterized by money politics, and their desire to break down this framework. This remains strong after the election. In response to this, we are determined to continue with our efforts, and are now more confident in laying the groundwork for destroying such LDP politics.

[Okamura] The JNP's Mr. Hosokawa.

[Hosokawa] I personally think that it is not meaningful to phrase the question in terms of LDP or non-LDP. However, if asked to make a choice between the two, we will answer unequivocally: non-LDP. Without a non-LDP force, there can be no change of political regime. We have been working for such a change. However, as I said earlier, we still have reservations about certain members of the non-LDP groups on basic policies with regard to whether they will have the courage to adopt unpopular policies. I know that there are such people. What we are saying is that we will present our definite views on such points in the next few days.

[Okamura] Komeito's Mr. Ishida.

[Ishida] Needless to say, there will be progress in the issue of political reform if there is a change of political regime. Administrative and financial reforms are also needed. The expansion of local autonomy is not possible within the existing framework. I would also like to see great progress in this aspect through a change of regime.

[Okamura] Shinseito's Mr. Hata.

[Hata] I am a man who welcomes debates in a setting like this. What I am saying is that we need one or two more days' time because we cannot discuss what has only been decided this morning. With regard to political reform, I think the problem lies not only in money politics and corruption. A political regime lasting too long is also a problem. Dynamism and tension can only come with the possibility of a change of regime and the implementation of reforms. For this purpose, political reform has to be enforced. Reform will make politics sensitive to many things. The present recession affecting small businesses is one example. We will be able to respond appropriate and promptly to such issues. If only for that, reforms need to be instituted.

[Okamura] The SDPJ's Mr. Yamahana.

[Yamahana] Listening to the voices from all over Japan, I can see that the people have clear-cut opinions about the historical significance of the recent election, and are expectant about the advent of a new era of coalition government. While it is quite unfortunate that we suffered a defeat in the election, we intend to work toward a non-LDP coalition government and exert our utmost efforts to work for the desired political reform, elimination of political corruption, and the creation of a new system allowing a change of regime under such a government.

[Okamura] The LDP's Mr. Kajiyama.

[Kajiyama] There have been no major mistakes in the policies the LDP has taken so far, and continuity is necessary in both domestic and international policies. However, what is desired most right now is political reform. The central issue in this is not to concentrate on one area like political funds, but to improve the overall transparency of administration and politics. I strongly feel that without this, there can be no fundamental reform. [passage omitted on Oyake's and Tanaka's comments]

Breakdown of Election Voting Figures Released

OW2007022293 Tokyo KYODO in English 0130 GMT 20 Jul 93

[Text] Tokyo, July 20 KYODO—The table below shows the number of votes won by parties in Sunday's [18 July] general election for the House of Representatives, with the percentage share and comparable share in the last election in 1990. The figures were released Tuesday by the Home Affairs Ministry.

Party	Votes	Share	1990 Share
LDP	22,999,646	36.62	46.14
SDPJ	9,687,588	15.43	24.39
Komeito	5,114,351	8.14	7.98
Shinseito	6,341,364	10.10	—
JCP	4,834,587	7.70	7.96
DSP	2,205,682	3.51	4.84
Sakigake	1,658,097	2.64	—
USDP	461,169	0.73	0.86
JNP	5,053,981	8.05	—
Minor parties	143,486	0.23	0.52
Independents	4,304,188	6.85	7.32
Total	62,804,144	100.00	100.00

Mitsuzuka: LDP Aims for Mixed Electoral System

OW2107012293 Tokyo KYODO in English 1449 GMT 20 Jul 93

[Text] Tokyo, July 20 KYODO—The head of the biggest faction in the Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) said Tuesday [20 July] the party will aim at compromising on electoral reform by supporting a mixed system for the House of Representatives.

Speaking in a television debate, Hiroshi Mitsuzuka, also chairman of the LDP's Policy Affairs Research Council, said the party will consider replacing the current multiseat constituencies with a system combining single-seat electorates and proportional representation.

His comments represent a turnaround for the party from its stance in June of refusing to compromise with the opposition on an LDP plan that envisaged only single-seat constituencies.

The leaders of seven other major parties taking part in the debate broadcast on Japan Broadcasting Corp. (NHK) expressed positive views about the mixed electoral reform proposal. Only the Japanese Communist Party rejected it.

Mitsuzuka presented an option to establish 275 single-seat districts and 225 seats decided by proportional representation.

Masayoshi Takemura, head of the LDP breakaway Sakigake (Harbinger), proposed setting up 250 single-seat constituencies and 250 proportional representation seats.

In the wake of Sunday's general election, Mitsuzuka's faction and the faction headed by Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa each have 55 lower house members.

The LDP and opposition parties failed to legislate during last month's Diet session sweeping political reform aimed at ridding Japanese politics of an endless cycle of money scandals. The failure to agree on electoral reform and tightening political funding led to the passage of a no-confidence resolution again [as received] Miyazawa's cabinet.

The LDP won 223 of the lower house's 511 seats in the election, well short of a majority.

Watanabe Expresses Desire for Premiership

OW2107043493 Tokyo KYODO in English 0403 GMT 21 Jul 93

[Excerpts] Tokyo, July 21 KYODO—Former Foreign Minister Michio Watanabe expressed a strong desire Wednesday [21 July] to succeed Kiichi Miyazawa as president of the dominant Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) and, hopefully, prime minister.

"I will do the stint at the risk of my life if voices grow within the party that Watanabe is the person to do it," Watanabe said during a television appearance. His remark came a day after Miyazawa indicated he would step down to take blame for the LDP's failure to secure a majority in Sunday's general election for the House of Representatives.

On electoral reform, Watanabe spoke of the need for the party to compromise with other parties to resolve the issue, adding it is possible to achieve reform in a year if the LDP is determined. Watanabe's comment on electoral reform is intended to allay opposition from within the party to his running in an LDP presidential race because he is generally viewed as an old guard who objects to electoral changes, political sources said.

Watanabe later told reporters the LDP should reach a compromise with other parties by proposing a combination of single-seat constituencies for the lower house with a limited element of proportional representation.

The current multiseat constituency system is regarded as the prime cause of cash-intensive electioneering, particularly when candidates from the LDP's various factions compete against each other in the same district. [passage omitted]

Watanabe's faction within the party held a general meeting Wednesday afternoon to discuss how to respond to the imminent resignation of Miyazawa, faction sources said. The LDP, which has had a 38-year hold on power, will back the resignation of Miyazawa at a meeting of LDP parliamentarians Thursday afternoon, according to party sources.

Miyazawa told reporters at his official residence Wednesday morning that it is yet unclear whether the LDP will select his successor by a vote or through closed-door negotiations. Reform-minded politicians within the party, however, are in opposition to such secretive practices.

Business Group Urges LDP To 'Democratize'

OW2107123893 Tokyo KYODO in English 1156 GMT 21 Jul 93

[Text] Tokyo, July 21 KYODO—The leader of an influential business organization said Wednesday [21 July] it will review its political donations after a new government is formed.

Masaru Hayami, chairman of the Japan Association of Corporate Executives (Keizai Doyukai), said the results of Sunday's [18 July] general election reflected public distaste with the Liberal Democratic Party (LDP), which failed to win its majority in the House of Representatives.

Speaking at a news conference, Hayami called on the LDP to democratize. "The time has come for the party to review its in-house system to meet the quickly changing times," Hayami said, criticizing the party's traditional system of appointing office bearers according to seniority.

He predicted the possibility of a coalition government excluding the LDP being formed.

Kanemaru Reportedly Received Illegal Donations

OW2107055993 Tokyo KYODO in English 0347 GMT 21 Jul 93

[Text] Tokyo, July 21 KYODO—Former political kingpin Shin Kanemaru received illegal donations from some construction firms even after he gave up his Diet seat last October, sources said Wednesday [21 July]. The allegation came one day before the 78-year-old former vice president of the Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) goes on trial on charges of evading 1.04 billion yen in income tax.

The sources said some general contractors provided Kanemaru with illegal donations at the end of last year as they had been doing before he resigned as a House of Representatives member last October 21.

Kanemaru gave up the Diet seat after admitting he took 500 million yen in illegal donations from Tokyo Sagawa Kyubin Co., an express parcel delivery firm which has since been absorbed into the Sagawa Kyubin group. He later paid a 200,000 yen fine for violating the Political Funds Control Law, which limits the amount of political funds a politician can accept from any one source to 1.5 million yen a year.

Kanemaru, who until last year wielded power as the head of the LDP's largest faction, also asked other general contractors for donations and some of them responded, the sources said. He is believed to have used his influence in the distribution of public works projects to general contractors who donated funds.

The sources said the general contractors probably continued to offer the donations in expectation that Kanemaru would shake off the scandal and make a political comeback.

Tokyo prosecutors early this year arrested Kanemaru and one of his aides on suspicion of evading tax between 1987 and 1989. Kanemaru siphoned off political donations—mostly from the construction industry—to amass billions of yen that he used to buy discount bank debentures, gold bullion, stocks and real estate, according to investigative sources.

Ministries Begin Public Works Bidding Research

OW2107101593 Tokyo KYODO in English 0945 GMT 21 Jul 93

[Text] Tokyo, July 21 KYODO—The Construction and Home Affairs Ministries on Wednesday began joint research on bidding systems for public works contracts of all local autonomous bodies as part of efforts to stem corruption, officials said. The ministries will work out a guideline for bidding system reforms based on research results by the end of this year at the earliest, they said.

The Construction Ministry has begun a review of bidding systems in the face of domestic and international criticism. One alternative system might be an open bidding system for qualified companies, ministry officials said.

Under the current bidding systems, Japanese national and local governments designate several companies beforehand which can bid for a public works contract.

The United States has attacked the systems as unfair, saying they limit opportunities for foreign companies to participate.

In late June, prosecutors arrested the mayor of Sendai and top officials of four major construction companies on suspicion of bribery. The officials were suspected of giving the mayor a 100 million yen bribe in return for favorable treatment on bidding for municipal public construction projects.

On Monday [19 July], prosecutors arrested the mayor of Sanwa, Ibaraki Prefecture, and officials of a construction firm in connection with a similar bribery case. The Construction Ministry and local governments have taken punitive action against the four companies involved in the Sendai bribery case by disqualifying them from bidding, for several months in most cases.

The Sendai municipal government on Wednesday [21 July] banned the companies from bidding for two years. They are Hazama Corp., Shimizu Corp., Nishimatsu Construction Co. and Mitsui Construction Co.

About 70 percent of all domestic public construction works are ordered by local governments, the ministry said.

Smaller Firms Feel Business Conditions Worsening

OW1907124493 Tokyo KYODO in English 0649 GMT 19 Jul 93

[Text] Tokyo, July 19 KYODO—Many Japanese small- and medium-sized companies still feel their business conditions have deteriorated, according to a government survey released Monday [19 July].

The quarterly survey by the Small and Medium Enterprise Agency said the business sentiment index stayed in the minus column at minus 30.3 for the April-June quarter, though recovering from the minus 36.6 reported for the previous quarter. The index represents the percentage of companies that feel their business conditions have improved or will improve from a year earlier, minus the proportion of those suffering or expecting worse business.

The survey, conducted early in June by the agency affiliated with the Ministry of International Trade and Industry, covered 18,892 small- and medium-scale firms, of which 17,344 companies or 91.8 percent responded.

The sales index for the April-June period stood at minus 29.1, compared with minus 35.5 in the January-March quarter.

The index on pretax profits came to minus 34.1, slightly recovering from the minus 39.8 reported for the previous three-month period.

Smaller businesses still expect bleak business prospects in the months to come, with the index on business sentiment for the July-September quarter standing at minus 24.1, that on sales at minus 23.2, and the index on pretax profits at minus 27.8.

Partial Revision of Antimonopoly Law Approved

OW2007080293 Tokyo KYODO in English 0638 GMT 20 Jul 93

[Text] Tokyo, July 20 KYODO—The Cabinet on Tuesday [20 July] approved a partial revision of the Antimonopoly Law's enforcement ordinance which will allow the Fair Trade Commission to function more effectively, government officials said.

Under the revised law, to take effect Friday, the Commission will have the authority to order the divestiture of a business and other actions to restore fair competition in a market of de facto monopoly worth 100 billion yen, double the present value, or more, the officials said.

It will also be able to require the submission of reports explaining price hikes in case of successive price increases in less than three months in a market of 60 billion yen, also double the present value, or more.

The values will be raised because the size of the Japanese economy has expanded since the present law was implemented in 1977, the officials said.

Local Governments' Public Works Spending Noted

OW2007022593 Tokyo KYODO in English 0159 GMT 20 Jul 93

[Text] Tokyo, July 20 KYODO—Prefectural governments issued contracts for 32.4 percent of their public works projects budgeted for fiscal 1993, which started April 1, in the first two months of the year, Home Affairs Minister Keijiro Murata said Tuesday [20 July].

It is the highest ratio of such contracts issued in a two-month period since fiscal 1983, and reflects government efforts to front-load public works spending to boost the sluggish economy.

The spending for April and May is worth 4,639.6 billion yen of the total public works budget for the year of 14,298.4 billion yen, Murata said.

He said the local governments are likely to meet their goal of concentrating 75 percent of fiscal 1993 public works spending in the first half of the year, Murata said.

OSE Group Urges Securities Law Revision

OW2007105493 Tokyo KYODO in English 1002 GMT 20 Jul 93

[Text] Osaka, July 20 KYODO—A study group under the Osaka Securities Exchange (OSE) has called for legal and other steps to expand the market for portfolio products, group officials said Tuesday [20 July].

In Japan, housing mortgage instruments, housing-loan bond trusts and other portfolio products are not accepted legally as securities products.

Compared with the United States, which has outstanding securities worth 305 trillion yen excluding stocks and bonds, Japan has only 2 percent or 6 trillion yen in nonstock, nonbond securities, the group said. Such securitised products, called asset-packed securities, will likely have enhanced liquidity in the market if they are accepted as securities products.

New legislation should be created to protect a shareholder when his debtor goes bankrupt, group officials said. The group said a value-rating system should also be introduced for the securitised products.

Ministry Acts To Set Provisional Rice Prices

OW2007062093 Tokyo KYODO in English 0517 GMT 20 Jul 93

[Text] Tokyo, July 20 KYODO—Agriculture Minister Masami Tanabu indicated Tuesday [20 July] the ministry will set provisional prices this week for this year's rice harvest. He said the decision has to be made quickly because recommendations by the government's rice price council will be held off until a new administration is inaugurated.

The conservative Liberal Democratic Party lost a majority in the powerful House of Representatives in Sunday's general election.

Tanabu said delivery of early harvested rice will begin in early August, making it necessary for the government to quickly set provisional prices. It will be the first time in 25 years that the government will set provisional prices for a new rice harvest. Ministry officials said provisional prices would be set several percent below last year's 16,392 yen per 60 kilograms.

1992 Rice-Growing Costs Said Down From 1991

OW2007123793 Tokyo KYODO in English 1203 GMT 20 Jul 93

[Text] Tokyo, July 20 KYODO—Rice growing cost 3.6 percent less last year than a year before, the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries said Tuesday [20 July]. The decline may give the ministry a good excuse to cut producer rice prices for the 1992 crop though many politicians are dead set against such a move, ministry sources said.

Costs involved in growing rice, including materials, labor and land costs, totaled 19,468 yen per 60 kilograms of rice harvested in 1992.

The amount of money the government pays to rice growers every year has been steadily reduced since 1990 until last year when the prices were frozen at 16,392 yen per 60 kilograms.

The farm ministry wants to resume the downward trend in rice prices this year to reduce government financial burdens and bring Japan's expensive rice prices more in line with international standards.

The government resells the rice crop bought from farmers to consumers at subsidized prices, which means the gap in producer and consumer prices is financed by state coffers. But the Liberal Democratic Party (LDP), fearing the loss of farmers' support, has demanded the producer price on the 1992 crop be frozen for the second consecutive year.

Other emerging new parties, which deprived the LDP of its four decades of parliamentary majority in Sunday's [18 July] general election and which could be key players in a new government, are even tougher on the rice issue than the LDP. Besides calling for an increase in the producer price, the emerging parties want to keep the nation's rice market closed to imports, leaving it still unclear whether rice prices will go down.

Memorial Sit-In Held Against Nuclear Weapons

OW2007123493 Tokyo KYODO in English 1029 GMT 20 Jul 93

[Text] Hiroshima, July 20 KYODO—Atomic bomb survivors and peace activists joined in a memorial sit-in Tuesday [20 July] at Peace Memorial Park to commemorate the 20-year anniversary of the antinuclear movement.

Some 80 people took part in the sit-in at the park's memorial cenotaph, marking the 475th sit-in against nuclear weapons in Hiroshima since the first one, held July 20, 1973, in protest against one of France's nuclear tests on a South Pacific reef.

The head of the Hiroshima Council Against Nuclear Weapons, Ichiro Moritaki, appealed at the sit-in for continuation of sit-ins as long as the nuclear threat exists on earth.

Over the last 20 years, each of the sit-ins has been staged from noon on the day after nuclear test was reported by the media.

A total of 454 sit-ins were held in protest against nuclear tests and the remainder were against either the 1986 Chernobyl nuclear accident, a call of a nuclear-powered ship at a Japanese port or the transportation of plutonium to Japan.

North Korea

Kang Sok-chu Discusses Nuclear Talks With U.S.

Interviewed by ROK Daily

SK2007064193 Seoul CHUNGANG ILBO in Korean 20 Jul 93 p 5

[Interview with DPRK Vice Foreign Minister Kang Sok-chu by Geneva-based correspondent Pae Myong-pok; time and place not given]

[Text] [Pae Myong-pok] You decided to resume discussions with the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA] on the issue of inspections. Does this mean you will completely return to the nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty [NPT]?

[Kang Sok-chu] We will decide on the issue of our return in accordance with how the issue of IAEA impartiality against us is resolved. I think, however, that this process is underway in a positive way.

[Pae] When do you think the North-South summit talks will possibly be held?

[Kang] Summit talks were proposed many times in the past by the great leader President Kim Il-song, and during his inauguration ceremony, South Korean President Kim Yong-sam also expressed a willingness to hold summit talks. For this, special envoys should be exchanged. Our position is that comprehensive questions between the North and the South, including the nuclear issue, can be discussed at the talks [between special envoys]. The South side calls for discussion of only the nuclear issue in working-level dialogue. By doing so, however, we cannot resolve even the important nuclear issue. I think that the summit talks would be possible if South Korea accepts the proposal to exchange special envoys.

[Pae] When do you plan to accept inspections of the two unregistered facilities in Yongbyon?

[Kang] Discussion of this issue depends on the guarantee of IAEA impartiality.

[Pae] Does that mean that depending on the results of negotiations with the IAEA, you may refuse inspections of the Yongbyon facilities?

[Kang] You can refer to the statement announced today to understand this.

Holds News Conference

SK2007130993 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1210 GMT 20 Jul 93

[Text] Kang Sok-chu, first vice minister of foreign affairs, who was heading the DPRK delegation, gave a news conference yesterday [19 July] in Geneva upon the conclusion of the second round of talks between the DPRK and the United States of America for resolving the nuclear problem.

Present at the news conference were reporters of the United States, the UK, France, Japan, and other major Western countries and South Korea.

The head of the DPRK delegation spoke first at the news conference.

He recalled that DPRK-U.S. talks had already taken place in June in New York to discuss U.S. nuclear threats against the DPRK and the International Atomic Energy Agency's [IAEA] unfairness [pulgongjongsong]. He went on to say:

The DPRK-U.S. talks took place sincerely again in Geneva to resolve the nuclear issue. I think that the results of the DPRK-U.S. talks were progressive and productive.

The DPRK and the United States, at the talks this time, reaffirmed the principles of the DPRK-U.S. joint statement dated 11 June 1993. The United States reaffirmed especially its commitment to the principles on assurances against the use of force, including nuclear weapons, and the threat of such force.

As part of the final solution to the nuclear issue, the sides discussed the question of the replacement of the current graphite moderated nuclear reactors and associated nuclear facilities of the DPRK with light water moderated nuclear reactors [LWR].

This is a question raised by us, and our proposal served as a clearer proof of the transparency of the DPRK denuclearization and peace policy and made it clear that we had no intention at all to develop nuclear weapons.

On the premise that a solution related to the provision of LWR's is achievable, the U.S. side positively supported and welcomed our proposal and assured us of its readiness to explore with us ways in which LWR's could be obtained.

Both sides agreed that a full and impartial application of IAEA safeguards is essential to accomplish a strong international nuclear nonproliferation regime.

On this basis, the DPRK expressed its willingness to begin consultations with the IAEA on outstanding safeguards and other issues.

Our position to hold consultations with the IAEA has been consistent. We have never opposed consultations with the IAEA. The problem lies in the fact that the

IAEA has failed to maintain its impartiality [gongjongsong] as a result of external forces' influence. Therefore, we intend to discuss the unfairness as a basic issue in consultations with the IAEA.

At the talks, both sides also reaffirmed the importance of the North-South Joint Declaration on the Denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula. We have maintained the consistent position to implement the joint declaration. However, because of outside forces' influence, no progress has been made. We have insisted that the joint denuclearization declaration be implemented at an early date. We also demand that an exchange of special envoys [between the North and South] to prepare for summit talks, a proposal we have advanced, take place. We iterated this position at the talks.

Bilateral issues, including the nuclear issue, must be comprehensively discussed during contacts between special envoys.

At the talks, we suggested that the United States join in the efforts to realize the exchange of special envoys.

The U.S. side expressed understanding of the DPRK's position toward North-South dialogue and assured us that it would encourage the North-South dialogue for the exchange of special envoys.

The DPRK and the United States have agreed to hold the next talks in the next two months to discuss technical questions related to the introduction of LWR's, outstanding matters related to resolving the nuclear issue, and the issue of improving overall relations between the DPRK and the United States.

It was stressed that both sides must do what they ought to do for the third round of talks.

The United States should take practical steps for abandoning the nuclear threat against us, such as an end to the Team Spirit joint military exercises and specific assurances of non-use of nuclear weapons against us.

To do so will be conducive to creating an atmosphere important for holding the next round of talks [irokke hanungussun taumdangye hoedamsilhyone chungyohan punwigirul chosonghanunde kiyohagedoelgussida].

In answering reporters' questions, he stressed that the return to the nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty depends on whether the nuclear threat to the DPRK is completely removed and the problem of partiality on the part of the IAEA is solved.

He also said that the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song had long since proposed holding North-South top-level talks [choegowiguphoedam].

He also said: With a view to arranging such talks, we proposed an exchange of special envoys on the vice-premier level and called for holding North-South top-level talks on the basis of a package discussion and agreement on pending issues, including implementation of the North-South joint denuclearization declaration, through the exchange of special envoys.

He also said that future prospects depend on the South.

Commentary on Hyundai Strike in South Noted

SK1907062193 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0440 GMT 19 Jul 93

["Repressive Campaign of 'Civilian Fascists'"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, July 19 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN in a commentary today denounces the South Korean authorities' current crackdown upon dismissed workers of the Hyundai Heavy Industries Co. as another anti-communist campaign launched in a criminal attempt to stifle the labour movement in South Korea.

The analyst says:

The strike of workers of the Hyundai Business Group that shook the labour circles throughout South Korea was not manipulated by anybody behind the scene. It was an independent struggle of the workers to win the rights to existence and democracy and the exercise of their elementary rights.

Nevertheless, the authorities are alleging that it was wirepulled by an "underground organization" and a "socialist group". This is a sophism to justify their repression of the labour movement.

The present ruler had declared that he "will not allow the labour movement" and will make a "crucial decision". The people are now lifting up their voice of protest, asking if he had meant "a decision to fake up false cases".

Those who brandish swords, deceiving the popular masses by fabricating anti-communist cases, are bound to pay dearly for them.

KCNA Calls South Korean Government 'Fascist'

SK1907063493 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0430 GMT 19 Jul 93

["Repressive Act of Advocates of 'Civilian Politics'"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, July 19 (KCNA)—The South Korean puppet police agency on July 16 arrested No Tae-hun, a young man, by invoking the "National Security Law", charging him with reading a book on the chuche idea in November 1991, according to a report.

This arrest made on the charge of what had been done in the period of the "Sixth Republic" two years ago tells that the present "regime" advocating "civilian politics" is, in essence, a fascist "regime" little different from the former "regime".

South Proposal on Unification Denounced

Doctrine Termed 'Challenge'

SK2107064193 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0452 GMT 21 Jul 93

[Text] Pyongyang, July 21 (KCNA)—"The 'doctrine of unification of systems' openly brought forward by the South Korean authorities, a downright challenge to our sincere efforts for peaceful reunification, proves that they do not want either national reunification or great national unity but seek confrontation between the fellow countrymen and division as their predecessors did," says the Secretariat of the Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of the Fatherland [CPRF] in its Information No. 633 made public on July 20.

According to it, the "speaker of National Assembly" of South Korea in his "address on Constitution Day" on July 17 said "our Constitution makes it clear that it never allows any other unification policy but unification on the principle of liberal democracy." Earlier, the chief executive of South Korea revealed his ulterior intention by saying unification which does not ensure "liberal democracy" and market economy is no better than division.

"The South Korean rulers' much-touted 'doctrine of unification of systems' is an unrealistic one which cannot be realized under the actual conditions of our country," the information says, adding:

"The only way of achieving the national reunification peacefully at the earliest possible date is to establish a confederacy based on one nation, one state, two systems and two governments on the principle of neither side conquering the other or being conquered by the other."

"If the present South Korean authorities who are loud-mouthed about 'civilian politics' have the least interest in the destiny of the country and the nation, they must discard the dream of 'unification of systems' which cannot be realised and accept without delay our fair and realistic proposal for reunification through confederacy which does not allow 'prevailing over communism' or 'communisation', northward invasion or southward invasion," the information stresses.

Plan Called 'Deceptive Slogan'

SK2107063893 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0508 GMT 21 Jul 93

["NODONG SINMUN Raps at S. Korean Authorities' Design for 'Unification by Prevailing Over Communism'"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, July 21 (KCNA)—The South Korean "National Assembly speaker" told a "ceremony on Constitution Day" on July 17 that "the Constitution never allows any other unification policy but unification on the principle of liberal democracy." Commenting on this, NODONG SINMUN today says his anachronistic remarks openly showed that the present rulers of South Korea are a captive to criminal design for "unification of the country by prevailing over communism," "unification through absorption."

The analyst notes:

The South Korean authorities had talked about "meeting" and "unification" while advertising "civilian government." But it was nothing but a deceptive slogan for fooling public opinion.

"Unification by prevailing over communism" is a daydream which cannot be realised any time. It is truth proved by history that Korea can not be reunified with one side conquering the other. Former dictators of South Korea met their end while crying for "unification by prevailing over communism." If the South Korean rulers follow in the footsteps of their predecessors, it would mean that they sentence themselves and the "civilian regime" to death.

South Criticized for Defending 'Former Dictators'

SK2007051293 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0420 GMT 20 Jul 93

["NODONG SINMUN Lambastes S. Korean Authorities Defending Crimes of Former Dictators"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, July 20 (KCNA)—The South Korean rulers are openly defending the crimes of former dictators in investigating the "four cases of violation of the constitutional government"—the "May 17 fascist action," the Kwangju massacre, the "December 12 army purge coup" and the "May 16 military coup"—and the "October Yusin" and in dealing with the intrigues and irregularities by "government" power in the "Yulgok arms buildup program" and the building of "peace dam." This comes under fire in NODONG SINMUN today.

The analyst says:

The present ruler of South Korea had declared that he would "liquidate the past marred by military dictatorship and irregularities" without sanctuary. However, he is now protecting the chieftains of the military dictatorship, the chief culprits of the injustices, with high walls built around them, and going back on his commitments to the "liquidation of the past," the "liquidation of irregularities."

This is because the present ruler took power with the dictatorial forces of the "fifth and sixth republics" as his political foothold.

The South Korean authorities are now resorting to the flunkeyist policy, the suppression of the people and the anti-communist confrontation policy as zealously as those of the "fifth and sixth republics" did, indicating that they have taken over the policy of the precedent "regimes." This bespeaks that though the present "regime" is styling itself a "civilian government," nothing has changed.

Russia Protests Attack on Employees in Nampo

SK2107105693 Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network in Korean 1020 GMT 21 Jul 93

[Text] According to a SANKEI SHIMBUN dispatch from Moscow on 21 July, Russia severely protested to Pyongyang authorities today in connection with the violation by about five or six hundred North Korean residents against five Russian employees of Russia's trade mission and their family members in Nampo, North Korea on 4 July. Russia also informed North Korea that it may take diplomatic countermeasures, such as a reduction of Russia's diplomatic and consular offices in Pyongyang.

Russian Vice Foreign Minister Kunadze called North Korean Ambassador to Moscow Son Song-pil in his office today and severely protested to the North Korean authorities not only for not taking measures against the mass violation, but also denying the violation occurred. He demanded North Korea apologize for it.

Cambodia's Sihanouk Begins Goodwill Visit

Arrives in Pyongyang

SK2007111293 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1040 GMT 20 Jul 93

[Text] Pyongyang, July 20 (KCNA)—His Royal Highness Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, head of state, chairman of the Supreme National Council and supreme commander of the Armed Forces of Cambodia, arrived here today by special plane to pay a goodwill visit to Korea upon the invitation of President Kim Il-song of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

Accompaning the Samdech and Madame are H.R.H. Prince Norodom Sihamoni, state minister for the presidency and permanent representative to the United Nations; Oum Mannorine, state minister for the presidency and Cambodian Ambassador E.P. accredited to Korea; Chhorn Hay, state minister for the presidency; and other suite members.

Kim Yong-nam, vice-premier and foreign minister, and officials concerned were present at the airport to receive the Samdech and his party.

Put up there were portraits of President Kim Il-song and H.R.H. Samdech Norodom Sihanouk and slogan boards reading "Warm welcome to H.R.H. Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, head of state, chairman of the Supreme National Council and supreme commander of the Armed Forces of Cambodia!" and "Long live the unbreakable friendship and solidarity between the peoples of Korea and Cambodia!"

A welcome ceremony took place at the airport.

H.R.H. Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, accompanied by Kim Yong-nam, reviewed an honor guard of the three services of the Korean People's Army.

Thousands of Pyongyangites warmly welcomed the Cambodian guests with national flags of the two countries, bouquets and decorations in their hands.

Meets With Kim Il-song

SK2107113093 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1049 GMT 21 Jul 93

[Text] Pyongyang, July 21 (KCNA)—President Kim Il-song of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea today met His Royal Highness Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, head of state, chairman of the Supreme National Council and supreme commander of the Armed Forces of Cambodia, on a goodwill visit to Korea.

President Kim Il-song conversed with His Royal Highness Samdech Norodom Sihanouk in a cordial and friendly atmosphere.

Presents Gift to Kim Il-song

SK2107112893 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1046 GMT 21 Jul 93

[Text] Pyongyang, July 21 (KCNA)—President Kim Il-song of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea today received a gift from His Royal Highness Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, head of state, chairman of the supreme national council and supreme commander of the Armed Forces of Cambodia, on a goodwill visit to Korea.

H.R.H. Samdech Norodom Sihanouk explained the gift to President Kim Il-song.

President Kim Il-song expressed thanks after seeing the gift.

Kim Il-song Hosts Luncheon

SK2107111893 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1045 GMT 21 Jul 93

[Text] Pyongyang, July 21 (KCNA)—President Kim Il-song of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea gave a luncheon today in honor of His Royal Highness Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, head of state, chairman of the Supreme National Council and supreme commander of the Armed Forces of Cambodia, on a goodwill visit to Korea.

Also invited to the luncheon were H.R.H. Prince Norodom Sihamoni, state minister of the cabinet of the Samdech, head of state, and permanent representative to the United Nations; Oum Mannorine, state minister of the cabinet of the Samdech, head of state, and Cambodian Ambassador E.P. to Korea; Chhorn Hay, state minister of the cabinet of the Samdech, head of state; and other suite members.

Vice-Premier and Foreign Minister Kim Yong-nam, Chief of General Staff of the Korean People's Army Choe Kwang, Vice-premier and Minister of Culture and Art Chang Chol and officials concerned were present.

The luncheon took place in a cordial atmosphere.

Perceived Japanese Nuclear Capability Condemned

Leaders Urged To Show 'Discretion'

SK1707104993 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0959 GMT 17 Jul 93

["NODONG SINMUN on Japan's Nuclear Armament at Dangerous Stage"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, July 17 (KCNA)—The Japanese ruling quarters must act with discretion, mindful that nuclear armament will lead Japan to destruction, warns NODONG SINMUN today.

Citing materials showing that Japan is working feverishly to become a nuclear power, the analyst says:

Japan began the production of cruise missiles in 1985 and test-launched a ground-to-sea missile in 1987.

Now the Japanese "Self-Defence Forces" are being equipped with nuclear-capable 155 mm guns, 203.2 mm guns and other howitzers and the number of the nuclear-capable F-15s is snowballing. The Air "Self-Defence Force" plans to increase the number of its aircraft to more than 1,200 in the near future, most of them being nuclear-capable fighter-bombers. Japan is also developing a nuclear-delivery rocket and already launched a nuclear-powered ship. Cruise missiles which Japan has begun to produce are capable of delivering nuclear warheads.

Japan's nuclear technology and its development of nuclear-delivery means have reached the world level.

Japan purchases plutonium from other countries, while producing it domestically. It intends to secure 400 tons of plutonium in 30 years to come so that it may produce nuclear weapons massively anytime.

It is what the Japanese ruling quarters seek to become a nuclear power and gratify the wild ambition which it failed to realise in the past. With nothing can Japan justify its nuclear armament.

Seeks Armament 'at Any Cost'

SK1807002593 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 0015 GMT 17 Jul 93

[NODONG SINMUN 17 July special article: "Japan's Nuclear Armament Has Reached a Dangerous Stage"]

[Text] In a recent meeting with the U.S. President, Japanese Prime Minister Miyazawa said that, because Japan is faced with our possible nuclear threat, the possibility of Japan becoming a nuclear power cannot be ruled out entirely.

Miyazawa's gibberish about the possibility of Japan becoming a nuclear power, made while talking about our nonexistent nuclear threat, undisguisedly illustrates the Japanese Government's attempt to achieve its nuclear armament at any cost, even by presenting unreasonable pretexts.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song has taught: If Japan advances along the road of becoming a big military power oblivious of its past serious historic lessons, this means that it chose a road toward self-destruction, going against the trend of the current time.

Japan suffered miserable damage from being attacked with U.S. atomic bombs. Now that the realization of denuclearization and the abolition of nuclear weapons has become the aspiration of the century, Japan, as the only country that has suffered nuclear damage, should have deservedly joined in this trend before any others. But rather it is wildly pursuing the line of becoming a big nuclear state by going against this trend.

Japan's acceleration of becoming a big nuclear power is not because of someone's nuclear threat, but includes a very dangerous design. The following facts clearly illustrate such design.

The Nuclear Ambition Budded a Long Time Ago

It was during World War II that Japan attempted to have nuclear weapons. In May 1941, the Japanese Government launched a work of researching and manufacturing nuclear weapons by mobilizing about 100 physicists. The physicists completed theoretical research on the manufacture of nuclear weapons in two years and prepared a final plan in May 1943.

This report was immediately submitted to Tojo, then prime minister. Since that time, the work of discovering uranium ore was carried out everywhere throughout Japan, but in vain.

Therefore, Japan decided to bring uranium ore from fascist Germany. However, its ship was attacked at sea in Southeast Asia while transporting uranium ore. Thus, its plan ended in failure.

As the result, Japan was forced to give up its plan to manufacture nuclear weapons. After the war, the Japanese ruling quarters, instead of seeking a lesson from its downfall, openly stressed that it should have nuclear weapons, and put forward nuclear armament as its consistent policy. One can be aware of this through remarks of successive Japanese prime ministers.

In May 1957, Kishi, then Japanese prime minister, said that people assess that even the utterance of nuclear weapons is a violation of the Constitution, but such an assessment is not correct and failed to understand the development of the situation. Thus, he showed a dark intention for nuclear armament.

The World [word indistinct] Operation Plan, which the Japan Defense Agency worked out in 1963, presupposed Japan's possession of nuclear weapons. In June 1969, Sato, then Japanese prime minister, answering questions at the parliament, said that the three nonnuclear principles could change at any time with the change of policy or with the change of the cabinet, adding that Japan could have nuclear weapons for defensive purposes.

In March 1978, Fukuda, then Japanese prime minister, said that Japan could adopt a decision to equip the country's armed forces with nuclear weapons. The Fukuda cabinet issued at the parliament a unified government view that Japan can possess nuclear weapons under the current Constitution. The Nakasone cabinet of the 1980's said that Japan could have atomic power for defensive purposes. Nakasone said, even when he was the director general of the Japan Defense Agency in 1971, said that the Japanese Constitution did not ban nuclear weapons for defensive purposes. The Japanese Government has recently approved a white paper setting the policy of Japan's nuclear armament.

Facts show that the Japanese intention to have nuclear weapons results not from someone's threat but from the open scheme of the reactionary ruling circles plotting to make their country a major nuclear power.

Nuclear Weapons at Any Time

Japan has long been laying a material and technological foundation to become a major nuclear power. The Japanese ruling circles which have undertaken the development of atomic power since 1956 have mobilized numerous engineers and experts to lay a material and technological foundation for nuclear armament. Japan, which began operating an atomic power plant for the first time in 1966, carried out the technological development project for the local production of nuclear weapons during the 1967-1971 period of the Third Defense Buildup Plan, completing a nuclear weapons system capable of firing nuclear warheads.

The independent defense plan which the Japanese Government worked out in 1969 disclosed its plan to develop and possess its own nuclear weapons and the intercontinental ballistic missiles as a delivery vehicle. Japan began the production of cruise missiles in 1985. In 1987, the Japan Self-Defense Forces test-fired a high-performance ground-to-sea missile produced by Japan from the U.S. Navy Pacific missile center in California in the United States. Now the Japan Self-Defense Forces are equipped with howitzers like the 155-mm guns and 203.2-mm guns capable of firing nuclear bombs. Japan is increasing the number of its F-15's capable of carrying nuclear bombs. The Air Self-Defense is planning to increase the number of its aircraft to over 1,200 planes in the near future, and most of them are fighter-bombers capable of carrying nuclear bombs.

Japan is also developing rockets for delivery of nuclear bombs and has launched a nuclear-powered ship. The cruise missiles, whose production has already begun, are said to be capable of delivering nuclear warheads. The Japanese nuclear technology and its development of delivery vehicles have reached the world standard. It is well-known internationally that Japan can become a major nuclear power at any time within the shortest period of time if it wishes to do so, since it has completed the material and technological preparations for the production of nuclear weapons.

Massive Plutonium Stockpile

Japan is massively stockpiling plutonium for the production of nuclear weapons. Japan is producing plutonium locally while importing it from abroad. Japan, which completed a nuclear fuel reprocessing plant in Tokaimura, Ibaragi Prefecture in 1981, is producing plutonium in large quantities at this plant. This year Japan has started building a new nuclear fuel reprocessing plant of the largest scale in the world in Rokashomura, Aomori Prefecture. If this plant is completed in 1999, Japan can extract five tons of plutonium each year. With this, Japan will be able to produce eight tons of plutonium every year. Japan is planning to secure 400 tons of plutonium over 30 years.

In view of the Voice of America assertion that 100 tons of plutonium can produce over 10,000 nuclear warheads, Japan can make over 40,000 nuclear warheads from 400 tons of plutonium which Japan plans to secure. The Japanese authorities mention the so-called peaceful use of plutonium, but their stockpiling of more plutonium than necessary is the realistic proof that they are scheming to become a major nuclear power.

Japan's bringing into its country over one ton of plutonium from France explains only a small fraction of the story. Japan brought large quantities of plutonium from Britain on some 10 occasions in the 1970's and 1980's. Japan is said to be able to produce more than 100 nuclear weapons from the plutonium brought from Britain. If the plutonium Japan has brought in is for peaceful use, as the Japanese ruling circles claim, the quantity they stockpile is too large, and they need not bring it in such secrecy, hiding it from people's eyes. Japan is scheming to stockpile enormous quantities of plutonium to produce nuclear weapons massively at any time it chooses.

As seen above, Japan is pushing ahead with nuclear armament in a full-fledged manner. The Japanese ruling circles say that Japan lost World War II because it was not strong enough. This reveals itself the aim of the Japanese nuclear armament. The Japanese ruling circles scheme to realize their ambition they failed to realize in the past by becoming a major nuclear power. Japan's nuclear armament cannot be justified by anything.

The Japanese nuclear armament is a great threat to peace in Asia and the world. The people of Asia and the peace-loving people of the world are alert to the Japanese maneuvers to become a major nuclear power. The Japanese ruling circles should be aware that the way to nuclear armament is the way to self-destruction, and act with discretion.

Called 'Dangerous War Force'

SK2107110993 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1035 GMT 21 Jul 93

["Japan Is Dangerous War Force in Asia"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, July 21 (KCNA)—Japan has become a dangerous war force and it intends to launch another invasion in Asia with the Korean peninsula as the springboard, says NODONG SINMUN in a by-lined article today.

Noting that Japan is engaged in a hectic activity to become a military power, the article says:

According to data, the new arms buildup program (1991-1995) envisages an appropriation of 22,150 billion yen. This year the Japanese government alloted a larger fund to military spendings than in the last fiscal year.

Japan's moves of aggression and war find graphic manifestation in that it has modernized the "Self-Defence Forces" [SDF] and increased its attack capabilities.

Military analysts note that the nearly 300,000 men of the "SDF" are mostly officers and noncommissioned officers, its fire power far surpasses that of the old "imperial army" and it is armed with sophisticated weapons suitable to modern warfare.

The "SDF" has reorganized its combat units for the operation of aggression overseas and is equipping them with up-to-date military hardware.

Still more grave is Japan's scheme to gratify its design of overseas aggression with nuclear weapons.

It has made full material and technical preparations to manufacture nuclear weapons and is now ready to make them anytime.

In accelerating preparations for aggression and war, it seeks to make a military thrust in the Asia-Pacific region and put the region under its control with strength and realise its dominationist design.

The Japanese ruling quarters must properly draw a lesson from the defeat of Japan in the war started by it against the Asian people in the past and act with discretion.

Japan's LDP Defeated; One-Party Rule Ends

SK2107064893 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0439 GMT 21 Jul 93

[Text] Pyongyang, July 21 (KCNA)—The present ruling Liberal Democratic Party [LDP] of Japan was defeated in the elections to the House of Representatives held on July 18, failing to obtain a majority of seats, according to a report.

The defeat of the LDP in the general elections and the end of the one-party rule are an inevitable development resulting from its anti-popular and corrupt policy.

As a result of the elections, the LDP has lost the position of the ruling party and will have to undergo political ordeals, and the Japanese political circles have entered a serious phase of reform.

Not without reason do world media predict that, with the defeat of the LDP in the general elections and the split of the party, Miyazawa finds it difficult to retain the post of the prime minister and the political situation of Japan will become unstable.

Our people remember that he has constantly pursued a hostile policy towards the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and impudently called the dignified DPRK "Hokusen" some time ago.

These days he is taking the lead in the intrigues of the international reactionary forces to isolate and stifle the DPRK, making much ado about its fictitious "nuclear problem" in chorus with the United States.

The LDP rulers of Japan must clearly know what doom awaits a regime which has become internally a target of denunciation by the people for its corrupt policy and externally resort to a hostile policy toward other countries and an expansionist policy.

Kim Il-song Exploits Against Japanese Army Praised

SK2007043693 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1516 GMT 19 Jul 93

["'Miracles of Korea.' Japanese Imperialist Army One Million Strong Defeated"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, July 19 (KCNA)—Many world-startling miracles have been recorded in the proud history of the Korean revolution.

One of the miracles wrought by the Korean people is that they defeated the Japanese imperialist army one million strong and achieved the liberation of the country.

This wonder was worked by the great leader President Kim Il-song.

The Korean people were subjected to colonial slavery for nearly half a century from the beginning of the present century due to the Japanese imperialist aggression.

It was their ardent desire and supreme national task to defeat Japanese imperialism and achieve the liberation of the country.

Their ardent aspiration and cherished desire were fully realized as President Kim Il-song put forth a chuche-orientated revolutionary line and wisely led the anti-Japanese revolutionary struggle.

The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il has said:

"In accordance with the chuche-oriented line of armed struggle put forward by the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song, our people waged a heroic anti-Japanese armed struggle, defeated the Japanese imperialists and achieved the historic cause of national liberation."

The great leader set forth the line of armed struggle and in July, 1930, formed the Korean Revolutionary Army. Drawing on the success and experience gained therefrom, he founded the Korean People's Revolutionary Army (KPRA) on April 25, 1932.

The KPRA had to cover a path of arduous struggle full of trials against the Japanese Imperialist Kwantung Army one million strong which boasted of being crack units and their troops stationed in Korea, without the backup of a state or support of regular Armed Forces. But it dealt telling political and military blows at the enemy everywhere.

Of particular historical significance in this are the battles at Pochonbo and Musan area.

The great leader advanced into Korea leading the main unit of the Korean People's Revolutionary Army (KPRA) in June 1937, breaking through the border guard line, which the Japanese imperialists described as an "impregnable wall," and dealt a heavy blow at the enemy in Pochonbo, declaring to the world that the Koreans were not dead, but alive, and could win in the fight against Japanese imperialism.

At Jiansanfeng, he completely smashed with wise guerrilla tactics thousands of enemy troops "chasing" the KPRA after the Pochonbo battle, frightening the Japanese imperialist aggressors who boasted of their "being matchless."

The Musan area battle in May 1939 was also a historic battle demonstrating the invincible might of the KPRA.

Although the Japanese imperialists mobilized hundreds of thousands of troops including the local army corps of the Kwantung Army and even a flying corps in the "punitive" operation against the KPRA, they sustained setback after setback in face of the unique guerrilla tactics and outstanding commanding art of the great leader.

The defeat of Nazi Germany in May 1945 drove the Japanese imperialist aggressors to a tight corner.

The great leader saw to it that full preparations were made for the final decisive battle with Japanese imperialism as required by the changed situation and ordered the KPRA to launch a general offensive to liberate the country on August 9, 1945. The one million-strong Kwantung Army of Japanese imperialism and its occupation forces in Korea suffered a debacle.

On August 15, Japanese imperialism surrendered and its brutal colonial rule over Korea ended.

The liberation of Korea is one of the greatest and most brilliant exploits performed by President Kim Il-song for history and the people.

Activities Underway To Commemorate War Anniversary

War Veterans Lecture at Museum

SK1907112193 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1007 GMT 19 Jul 93

[Text] Pyongyang, July 19 (KCNA)—Lecturers of the Victorious Fatherland Liberation War Museum are busy giving lectures to numerous home and foreign visitors on the threshold of the 40th anniversary of the victory in the war, the day of the second liberation for the Korean people.

They are war veterans, 65 in average age, who performed heroic feats in the Fatherland Liberation War. They are heroes of the Republic or men of meritorious services.

Only 10 years ago, they worked as commanding officers of units of the Korean People's Army or at responsible posts of different fields of the national economy.

In November 1983, the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il acquainted himself with the work and life of the heroes of the Republic and those who rendered meritorious services during the war, and, with deep trust in them, took care that they were appointed lecturers at the victorious Fatherland Liberation War Museum to keep the flower the revolution in bloom in their old age.

Among them is Kim Ki-u, twice hero of the DPRK, who shot down many warplanes of the enemy with a heavy machine gun in the rigorous days of war in the 1950s.

He grew to be a competent military commanding officer under the care of the Workers' Party of Korea and is now a deputy to the Supreme People's Assembly. He is major general. Some time ago, he had the great honor of receiving a 60th birthday table sent by Comrade Kim Chong-il.

Among the lecturers is Yi Hwal. He rejoined the army in his 70 years and received the military rank of lieutenant general with the deep trust and loving care of Comrade Kim Chong-il.

When the nation was building the first flying corps after the liberation, he served as a commanding officer of the Air Force. During the war, he was deputy commander of the Air Force.

Comrade Kim Chong-il showed deep trust in his son, too, making him a pilot to succeed his father. The son is defending the airspace of the country as a commanding officer in his father's place.

The hero-lecturers also include Kim Song-chin who miraculously came back to life with eleven bullets in his chest after he silenced a pillbox of the enemy with his body, Han Kye-chon and Han Se-kon who drove tanks into Seoul before anybody else in the battle for liberating Seoul in the summer of 1950, and Kwon Hyok-chang, Yom Tae-kyong, Kim Yong-chol and Na Yun-ku who performed unexampled feats in the battles on Hill 1211 and Hill 351.

Their impressive lectures and battle stories greatly move the visitors and encourage them to perform feats in defending the socialist country.

Lebanese President Sends Greetings

SK1807082293 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0802 GMT 18 Jul 93

[Text] Pyongyang, July 18 (KCNA)—President Kim Il-song of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea received a message of greetings from Ilyas al-Hirawi, president of the Republic of Lebanon, on the threshold of the 40th anniversary of the victory of the Korean people in the Fatherland Liberation War.

The Lebanese president in the message extended to President Kim Il-song warmest felicitation and wishes and hoped that the friendly relations between the two countries would be further strengthened.

Kim Il-song Receives Messages

SK1907054893 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0429 GMT 19 Jul 93

["Congratulatory Message and Letters to President Kim Il-song From Different Countries"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, July 19 (KCNA)—The great leader President Kim Il-song received a congratulatory message from the participants in a meeting held at the Damascus Provincial Defence Command of the Syrian People's Army and letters from the participants in meetings held in Lima, Peru, and Karachi, Pakistan, on the occasion of the month of international solidarity with the Korean people and the 40th anniversary of the victory in the Fatherland Liberation War.

In the message and letters they say that the victory won by the Korean people in the three-year Fatherland Liberation War demonstrated to the whole world that the Korean people and the People's Army, guided by President Kim Il-song, were invincible and clearly showed that the people who rose up for the freedom and independence of the country could certainly defeat any enemy.

But the U.S. imperialists are still obstructing the independent and peaceful reunification of Korea though 40 years have passed since the ceasefire, they note, and demand that the United States withdraw its troops and nuclear weapons from South Korea and denuclearize the Korean peninsula.

The message and letters sincerely wish President Kim Il-song good health and long life.

PRC Group Visits for Anniversary

SK1907111493 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1014 GMT 19 Jul 93

[Text] Pyongyang, July 19 (KCNA)—A delegation of cadres of the Communist Party of China headed by Su Huaide, secretary-general of the Political Science and Law Committee of the CPC Central Committee, arrived in Pyongyang today to participate in celebrations of the 40th anniversary of the great victory of the Korean people in the Fatherland Liberation War.

It was met at the airport by Kim Yang-kon, vice-director of a department of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, and Ning Fukui, charge d'affaires ad interim of the Chinese Embassy here.

Algerian Club Marks Occasion

SK2007103493 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1015 GMT 20 Jul 93

[Text] Pyongyang, July 20 (KCNA)—The Algeria-Korea Youth Friendship Club published a special issue of a bulletin on July 10 on the occasion of the 40th anniversary of the victory of the Korean people in the fatherland liberation war.

The bulletin carries a portrait of the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il.

The bulletin edits a special write-up with articles headlined "Supreme Commander of the Korean People's Army," "40th Anniversary of the Victory of the Korean People in the Great Fatherland Liberation War," "10-point Programme—Formula of Founding Independent, Peaceful, Neutral and Reunified State" and "Korean War."

Greetings From Seychelles President

SK2007044993 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0407 GMT 20 Jul 93

[Text] Pyongyang, July 20 (KCNA)—President Kim Il-song of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea received a message of greetings from President France Albert Rene of the Republic of Seychelles on the occasion of the 40th anniversary of the victory in the Fatherland Liberation War.

In the message the Seychellois president expresses full support to the 10-point programme of the great unity of the whole nation advanced by President Kim Il-song to achieve the great event of reunification of the country.

Wishing the Korean people greater success in their endeavours for progress under the wise and energetic guidance of President Kim Il-song, he expresses the belief that the excellent bonds of friendship, cooperation and solidarity existing between the two countries and two peoples will grow stronger and develop in the future.

He wishes President Kim Il-song good health and long life.

Foreign Press Reportage Noted

SK2007102793 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1013 GMT 20 Jul 93

[Text] Pyongyang, July 20 (KCNA)—Foreign newspapers dedicated articles to the 40th anniversary of the victory of the Korean people in the fatherland liberation war.

The Bulgarian paper TRIBUNA July 9 said that the young Democratic People's Republic of Korea, less than five years after it was liberated from the colonial rule of the Japanese imperialists, won victory in the just war against the formidable U.S. imperialist aggressors, startling the world. It was because the iron-willed brilliant commander General Kim Il-song led the DPRK that it could defeat the enemy in the war, it stressed, and added:

Forty years have passed since the war ceased, but dark clouds of war are still hovering over the Korean peninsula and the country remains divided. The United States must withdraw its troops from South Korea.

The Zairese paper LA NATION July 9 said that the key to the victory in the Korean war lay in that the entire people and People's Army, rallied as one around President Kim Il-song, the ever-victorious, iron-willed brilliant commander, fought in accordance with the chuche-based strategy and tactics indicated by him. This victory proved that if the people of a country, small as it was, valiantly fought against the aggressors, conscious of being the masters of power, they could win, stressed the paper.

The Yemeni paper AS-RAI AL-AAM, the Indian paper SAMACHAR POST, the Indonesian paper INDONESIAN OBSERVER and the Burkinabe paper SIDWAYA wrote about the purpose of the enemy in igniting the Korean war and the victory of the Korean people in the war.

Photo Exhibit Commemorates Victory

SK2007045093 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0411 GMT 20 Jul 93

[Text] Pyongyang, July 20 (KCNA)—A central photo exhibition commemorating the 40th anniversary of the victory in the fatherland liberation war opened at the February 8 House of Culture in Pyongyang on July 19. Exhibited there are some 170 pictures showing the immortal leadership feats of the respected leader President Kim Il-song who led the great Fatherland Liberation War to victory and the leadership traits of the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il who has strengthened and developed our revolutionary armed forces into invincible ranks, pictures showing the growth of the Korean people's Army into a modernized cadre army, revolutionary armed forces each man of which is a match for a hundred foes and the conversion of the whole country into an impregnable fortress, pictures showing the traditional beautiful traits of unity between the army and the people.

An opening address was made by Chang Chol, vice-premier of the Administration Council and minister of culture and art.

Commemorative Events Noted

SK2107104593 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1019 GMT 21 Jul 93

[Text] Pyongyang, July 21 (KCNA)—The Democratic People's Republic of Korea is astir with brisk activities to significantly celebrate the 40th anniversary of the victory of the Korean people in the Fatherland Liberation War.

The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il has said:

"July 27 this year is a very meaningful day which marks the 40th anniversary of the victory of our People's Army and people in the Fatherland Liberation War".

July 27, the anniversary of the victory in the war, is the second liberation day following August 15, 1945, the day when the Korean people defended the dignity and sovereignty of the nation by repulsing imperialist aggression.

The working people in all domains of the national economy including mining, power and light industries and railway transport continue effecting innovations in production and construction, consolidating the achievements made in the fulfilment of their national economic plans for the first half of the year in hearty response to the calls of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea published on the occasion of the 40th anniversary of the victory in the Fatherland Liberation War.

The builders of the capital city will complete the construction of 30,000 flats on the threshold of the 40th anniversary of the victory in the war. They had completed 50,000 flats last year.

The tideland builders completed the dam project of Kumsong tideland for obtaining 3,300 hectares of new arable land as a gift to the war victory day.

War veterans call at People's Army units and grand socialist construction sites to encourage soldiers and builders to feats through art circle activities and economic agitation.

The Korean writing group has produced over 1,200 literary works praising the greatness of the respected leader President Kim Il-song and the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il in a little more than one year.

New postage stamps, cards and envelopes have been published on the occasion of the victory day.

Dramas and films based on the theme of national defence are showing at theatres and cinema houses.

All the Korean people and People's Army soldiers are firmly defending their posts, singing such wartime songs as "To a Decisive Battle" and "My Song in the Trench," and "No Motherland Without You", a song of faith of the Korean people.

A great number of working people visit the Victorious Fatherland Liberation War Museum, the Chonsung Revolutionary Museum and historical places.

Preparations for colorful functions scheduled in the capital city of Pyongyang on the 40th anniversary of the victory in the war are progressing at the final stage.

Columns of relay groups are coming to Pyongyang one after another after they started from all parts of the country to convey loyal letters to President Kim Il-song and Comrade Kim Chong-il.

Slogans, large-size posters and placards on the day are appearing on the streets of the country, while cities and villages are being arranged more neatly.

Anniversary Art Show Opens

SK2107065193 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0433 GMT 21 Jul 93

[Text] Pyongyang, July 21 (KCNA)—A national art exhibition opened here on July 20 on the occasion of the 40th anniversary of the victory of the Korean people in the Fatherland Liberation War.

On display are more than 220 pieces of art works. Among them are fine art pieces showing the extraordinary military intelligence, leadership ability and noble communistic virtues of the respected leader President Kim Il-song, the founder of the heroic Korean People's Army, and the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il, the supreme commander of the Revolutionary Armed Forces, works vividly portraying realities of Korea where the People's Army has grown in strength to be a-match-for-a-hundred revolutionary armed forces under the wise leadership of the party and the leader and the beautiful tradition of army-people unity is coming into full bloom, and art pieces on the theme of national reunification.

Chang Chol, vice-premier of the Administration Council, addressed the opening ceremony.

SKNDF Holds News Conference

SK2107063393 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0430 GMT 21 Jul 93

[Text] Pyongyang, July 21 (KCNA)—A press conference took place at the mission of the South Korean National Democratic Front [SKNDF] (Hanminjon) here on July 20 on the occasion of the 40th anniversary of the victory of the Korean people in the great Fatherland Liberation War.

At the press conference, chief of the mission Cho Il-min said the patriotic people of broad strata who are dauntlessly fighting against the United States and dictatorship in South Korea are renewing their conviction of sure victory, looking back with deep emotions on July 27, the day of the victory in the war.

"The South Korean people highly appraise the victory in the war on July 27 as a brilliant crystal produced by the greatness of General Kim Il-song, a legendary hero and the sun of the nation with both literary and military accomplishments and noble virtues," he said, adding:

"The imperishable exploits and feats performed by the great General Kim Il-song in the flames of the unprecedentedly rigorous war are shining more brilliantly thanks to dear Comrade Kim Chong-il, a sagacious leader.

"Hostile relations between the DPRK and the United States have turned into equal relations and a bright prospect has been opened for national reunification as there is the dear leader who is leading the socialist construction and the national reunification movement with his clairvoyant intelligence and superb strategy tactics of turning misfortune into a blessing."

Hanminjon and people of all sections, he said, will open a new phase in the noble work for independence, democracy and reunification, filled with optimism and national pride in fighting under the guidance of the great leader and the dear leader.

He answered questions raised by reporters.

National Symposium Marks Victory

SK2107051593 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0446 GMT 21 Jul 93

["National Symposium on 40th Anniversary of Victory in War"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, July 21 (KCNA)—A national symposium was held here on July 20 on the occasion of the 40th anniversary of the victory of the Korean people in the great Fatherland Liberation War.

Present there were Pak Song-chol, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK] and Vice-President, Kim Ki-nam, secretary of the WPK Central Committee, and others.

Speakers at the symposium said the respected leader President Kim Il-song is an outstanding military strategist and ever-victorious iron-willed brilliant commander who created unprecedented military miracles, made the Korean people the most dignified, heroic people and opened an era of new upsurge in the anti-imperialist, anti-U.S. struggle by leading the fatherland liberation war to a shining victory with his great idea and distinguished and tested leadership.

Noting that military idea, strategies and tactics, chuche-based war methods and tested commanding art of President Kim Il-song who was the first in history to defeat the imperialist allied forces were decisive factors which enabled the Korean people and people's army to perform heroic exploits and win a victory in the fatherland liberation war, the speakers explained the reason on a profound scientific and theoretical basis.

They pointed out that the fatherland liberation war of the Korean people was a model of revolutionary wars in which they defeated the imperialists with the politico-ideological might of the singlehearted unity of the whole party, people and army around the leader.

The undying military feats of the respected leader are now being carried forward, developed and glorified by Comrade Kim Chong-il, the supreme commander, they said.

Stressing that Comrade Kim Chong-il is an iron-willed brilliant commander with brilliant intelligence, matchless grit and distinguished strategies, they said his grit and strategies are features characteristic of his traits as a great statesman and military strategist and they are based on the noble idea of "believing in the people as in heaven".

The Korean people are now firmly defending and further glorifying the Korean-style socialism, smashing in every step the anti-socialist, anti-DPRK moves of the imperialists as they enjoy the wise guidance of comrade supreme commander who has strengthened and developed their revolutionary Armed Forces into invincible ones, the speakers stressed.

Kim Chong-il Promotes Veterans

SK2107125893 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1203 GMT 21 Jul 93

[Korean People's Army Supreme Commander Kim Chong-il's Order No. 0040 issued on 19 July 1993 in Pyongyang—read by announcer]

[Text] The Korean People's Army [KPA] supreme commander's order

19 July 1993, No. 0040, Pyongyang

On upgrading military ranks [kunsachinghorulollyojul] of KPA officers and generals who participated in the Fatherland Liberation War.

Our party and people will meaningfully mark the 40th anniversary of the victory in the Fatherland Liberation War in which they resolutely defeated the imperialists' armed aggression and honorably defended the fatherland's freedom and independence.

The brilliant victory in the Fatherland Liberation War is filled with proud feats and immortal achievements by the People's Army soldiers who, in hearty response to the order of the great leader General Kim Il-song, an ever-victorious iron-willed general, fought to defend every inch of the fatherland, while shedding blood.

Our revolutionary Armed Forces, which fired their first shot in the forests of Paektu, brought about heroic feats that will be eternally brilliant in history in the two revolutionary wars under the wise leadership of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song, a modern military strategist [hyondaejok kunsajollyakka], and have now been strengthened and developed into invincible combatant ranks that have modern means of strike [pagyok] and powerful defensive capabilities that can destroy any powerful enemy at a stroke.

In waging the struggle to reunify the fatherland by upholding the chuche revolutionary cause with guns, it is the People's Army's pride and glory to have veterans who are endlessly loyal to the party and the revolutionary cause. They are wearing the military uniform and devoting their whole life, which is the same attitude they showed in their fight during the Fatherland Liberation War.

Since there are veterans who plowed their way amid the rigorous flames of the war for the fatherland and people, our party is all the stronger and our people are manifesting to the whole world its dignity and honor as a nation that is strong and independent and which no enemy can dare touch.

The party's faith and expectation for the participants of the Fatherland Liberation War, who are the framework and core of the People's Army, is very great.

I am of the firm belief that as in the past, the participants of the Fatherland Liberation War will continue to be loyal to the party and the leader; endlessly safeguard and adhere to socialism of our own style; and further strengthen and develop the People's Army to become a one-a-match-for-100 fighting force so that the chuche revolutionary cause can be firmly guaranteed through armed forces. On the occasion of the 40th anniversary of the war victory, I order that military ranks of KPA officers and generals who participated in the fatherland liberation war be upgraded as follows:

To Lieutenant General: (Choe Chun-kil), (Yi Su-hyon), (O Myong-yo), (Kim Chae-yon), (Yi Hyon-pok), (Yim Sun-chae), (Yi Nong-hun), (Cho Yong-kun), (Son Tae-kyun), (Pak Chong-ho), (Han Chun-pok), (Choe Won-ki), (Kim Song-uk), and (Kang Chang-pom)

To Major General: (Yom Tae-hyon), (Kim Yong-su), (Kim Yong-chol), (Kim U-chin), (Ko Chong-sik), (Na Yun-ku), (Han Se-kon), (Chon Ki-chol), (Han Pong-u), (Hong Ki-sok), (Chang Chan-pong), (Kim Chol-pok), (Pak Hyon-chul), (Yu Ki-hung), (Kim Sung-un), (Yi Hyon-pil), (Kim Tong-hyon), (Choe Tae-ung), (Yu Hae-san), (Mun Myong-tok), (Choe Song-nam), (Yi Sung-ki), (Paek Kung-ik), (Kim Nae-yong), (Cho Chong-kak), (Yim Pong-ha), (Choe Pong-sok), (Song Chan-hong), (Song Chan-kuk), (Yi Ung-man), (Yi Won-su), (Han Ho-taek), (Kang Chang-nam), (Yun Man), (Choe Un-hong), (Chang Yong-mun), (Han Tuk-hwan), (Pak Kun-sok), (Yi Tae-kun), (Paek Kun-chan), (Kim Chung- kil), (Yi Tae-hwan), (Yi Yong-chae), (Kang Song-kon), (Kim Yong- chun), (Chang Song-ik), (Cho Tu-yul), (Paek Ho-sop), (Kim Yun-chan), (Kim Kwan-sun), (Yun Chae-hui), (Kang Yong-ku), (Kim Hong-chun), (Pak Ki-son), (Chu Sang-tak), (Chon Hong-yong), (An Mae-in), (Han Song-chin), (Kim Chun-ki), (Paek Un-pyong), (Chae Kil-yong), (Kim Kam-hun), (Tokko Chong-won), (Cha Tok-hwa), (Kim Won-sun), (Yim Myong-am), (Yi Si-chon), (Kim Song-sik), (Song Un-kyong), (Yi Sang-chun), (Han Tae-sop), (Kim Sung-yon), (Ho Chun-hoe), (Kim Hak-chol), (Yi Mu-nong), (Kim Chong-hwan), (Chin Un-sik), (Yi Chu-kyong), (Nam Chang-chun), (Choe Kun-tan), (Han Myong-tong), (Kim Mun-sin), (Pak Yang-won), (Kim Chol), and (O Tu-ok).

[Signed by] KPA Supreme Commander Kim Chong-il

KCNA Reviews Pyongyang Press for 21 Jul

SK2107065393 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0501 GMT 21 Jul 93

[Press review]

[Text] Pyongyang, July 21 (KCNA)—Papers here today report that immortal classical works and reminiscences "With the Century" of the great leader President Kim Il-song were disseminated and studied in different countries.

Papers inform the readers that a collection of works of President Kim Il-song *On the Building of Revolutionary Armed Forces* Vol. 1 and 2 (June 1930 - December 1991) was published by the Workers' Party of Korea publishing house.

On the occasion of the 40th anniversary of the victory in the Fatherland Liberation War, NODONG SINMUN comes out with a political essay entitled "The Great Victor," and MINJU CHOSON with an editorial article "Our Supreme Commander Comrade Kim Chong-il Is a Great Military Genius Who Is Brilliantly Carrying Forward and Developing the Chuche Cause of Army Building."

Papers inform the readers that His Royal Highness Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, head of state, chairman of the Supreme National Council and supreme commander of the Armed Forces of Cambodia, arrived in Pyongyang on a goodwill visit to Korea upon the invitation of President Kim Il-song of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

The press gives frontpage prominence to the press statement of the delegation of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea on the DPRK-USA talks in Geneva.

According to the press, the head of the DPRK delegation called a press conference in Geneva at the end of the talks between the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the United States of America.

A national symposium was held and a national art exhibition opened in Pyongyang on the 40th anniversary of the victory in the Fatherland Liberation War, papers say.

Econews of papers include reports about crops ruling good.

NODONG SINMUN edits articles about veterans who had displayed the honour of the victor in the Fatherland Liberation War and are now living and working in the fighting spirit and mettle displayed in days of war.

Papers report that DPRK took 14 gold medals at the first world junior taekwon-do championship.

On the occasion of the 40th anniversary of the Korean people's victory in the war, functions took place in different countries and a press conference took place at the Pyongyang mission of the South Korean National Democratic Front, the press reports.

NODONG SINMUN gives accounts of meetings held at factories and enterprises in Pyongyang to denounce the South Korean authorities' crackdown on the labour movement.

Press commentaries denounce the South Korean ruling quarters' ambition of "unification by prevailing over communism".

NODONG SINMUN carries impressions on Korea of the chairman of the Senate Standing Committee on Information and Broadcasting of Pakistan.

Papers convey words of world public denouncing the provocative remarks of the U.S. President against the DPRK.

World news of NODONG SINMUN include reports that the Romanian president expressed concern over fascism raising its head in his country and the Lebanese president called for continued fight against Israel.

The third Ibero-America summit was held, and countries in the Balkans signed an agreement on the establishment of an industrial cooperation centre, says the press. An article of NODONG SINMUN exposes that Japan is emerging a dangerous force of war in Asia.

Kim Chong-il Thanks Citizens for Service

SK1707110793 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1006 GMT 17 Jul 93

[Text] Pyongyang, July 17 (KCNA)—The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il sent thanks to Hong Sin-hae, a crewman of the ship "Yombunjin", and his family.

Hong Sin-hae had displayed good traits of doing things voluntarily for the country and the people to repay, if but a little, the deep trust and loving care of the great leader President Kim Il-song and the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il who liberated the country, provided the people with a happy life and trained him to be an official of foreign shipping. Before the liberation of the country, Hong Sin-hae, a son of a poor lumberjack, had been subjected to exploitation and oppression under the Japanese imperialist colonial rule.

His wife Yi Pun-ok and his four sons did many good things and took an active part in assisting the People's Army.

Comrade Kim Chong-il sent thanks to the October 5 general automation instrument plant, the Pyongyang plastic building-materials plant, the Pyongyang municipal general bureau of construction, the Songyo restaurant management in Pyongyang, and woman Yi Tong-kye in neighbourhood Unit 40, Kaeson-tong, Moranpong District, and some 140 repatriates from Japan for having set examples in consolidating the relations between the Army and the people.

Workers Party Secretary Meets PRC Delegation

SK1707110393 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1018 GMT 17 Jul 93

[Text] Pyongyang, July 17 (KCNA)—Secretary Kim Ki-nam of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea today met and had a friendly talk with the delegation of the Chinese PEOPLE'S DAILY led by Deputy Chief Editor Li Renchen.

The head of the delegation said the Korean people have built their country splendidly under the wise leadership of President Kim Il-song and Secretary Kim Chong-il.

"10-point Programme of the Great Unity of the Whole Nation for the Reunification of the Country" put forward by the great leader President Kim Il-song is a very important measure in the solution of the reunification question, he said, expressing full support to it.

The Sino-Korean friendship with a long history was forged and brought into bloom by Chairman Mao Zedong, Premier Zhou Enlai and President Kim Il-song, he noted, stressing that the PEOPLE'S DAILY will actively contribute to developing this friendship.

South Korea

Exchange of 'Special Envoys' To Promote N-S Dialogue

SK2107110093 Seoul YONHAP in English 1049 GMT 21 Jul 93

[Text] Seoul, July 21 (YONHAP)—The government tentatively decided on Wednesday to promote the resolution of North Korea's nuclear issue through the exchange of special envoys between the two Koreas.

The decision was made at a high-level strategy meeting held at Prime Minister Hwang In-song's residence at Samchong-tong under the premier's chair.

The meeting resolved to have another high-level strategy meeting on July 24 to discuss the form of a dialogue to be held and the time and method of a proposal for such talks.

"We evaluate that a significant progress was made at the recent Geneva meeting between the United States and North Korea," said Vice National Unification Minister Song Yong-tae.

"Based on this evaluation, the government will promote the South-North dialogue prudently yet positively."

Another government official said the government's strategy is to set a frame for the settlement of the nuclear issue through the exchange of envoys while rules on mutual nuclear inspections should be worked out at the South-North Joint Nuclear Control Commission.

He said it is unavoidable to put the nuclear control commission into operation for the substantial resolution of the nuclear issue. "But, there is the need first to foster an atmosphere for its operation," he said.

If the South decides to take initiative in resuming the dialogue, "we cannot rule out the possibility of some concrete action being taken even before talks begin between North Korea and the International Atomic energy agency," the official added.

Han Sung-chu, Christopher To Consult on DPRK

SK2107005593 Seoul YONHAP in English 0034 GMT 21 Jul 93

[Text] Seoul, July 21 (YONHAP)—The South Korean and U.S. foreign ministers have promised to meet during next week's Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) conference to coordinate joint actions on the North Korean nuclear issue following the Geneva talks, officials here said Wednesday.

South Korea's Han Sung-chu called U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher on Tuesday evening and discussed the results of the North Korea-U.S. nuclear talks, in which Pyongyang agreed to resume negotiations with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) on inspections.

North Korea and the United States, which lack diplomatic ties, announced they will meet again in about two months to discuss nuclear matters and issues related to improvement of bilateral relations.

Evaluation of the Geneva talks was split in Seoul and Washington, with pessimists saying Pyongyang was given too much time to solve the inspection issue.

Han and Christopher agreed they need even closer bilateral consultations in preparing for the third round of Pyongyang-Washington talks and promised to meet in Singapore during ASEAN's post-ministerial conference, the officials said.

Clinton Remarks on U.S. Military in Asia Noted

SK2107013093 Seoul YONHAP in English 0114 GMT 21 Jul 93

[Text] Washington, July 21 (YONHAP)—U.S. President Bill Clinton said on Tuesday that the United States would maintain a "strong presence" in Asia until the North Korean nuclear problem was resolved.

"We do not reduce our presence in Asia at this time, and I do not think we should because of the ongoing controversy we're having over North Korea and whether they're going to withdraw from the regime which commits them never to develop nuclear weapons," Clinton said in a satellite interview with journalists from Wisconsin and Louisiana, answering a question on defense budget cuts.

"And until that is resolved, I think we have to maintain a strong presence in Asia."

His remarks came a day after North Korea agreed to renew talks with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) on inspection of its nuclear facilities in high-level talks with the United States in Geneva.

Clinton also said that his administration was making "substantial cuts" in troop levels in Europe and some in the United States.

On the differences between the budgets presented by him and President George Bush, Clinton cited his plan to reduce the aggregate size of the armed services by about 200,000 more than in Bush's last budget.

"We capped the B-2 bombers at the level recommended last year, so that is something we did," he said. "There is also—the Seawolf program is phased out, and other weapons systems are scaled down, including Star Wars, rather dramatically."

U.S. Report on DPRK-Iran Missile Deal Cited

SK1607055993 Seoul YONHAP in English 0548 GMT 16 Jul 93

[Text] Washington, July 15 (YONHAP)—North Korea provided Iran with 220 Scud missiles in last November and supplied a few early model Nodong-1 medium-range ballistic missiles (MRBM) with a range of some 1,000 kilometers secretly in late 1992, a U.S. Congressional report said Friday.

The report, entitled "an update on the Iranian-North Korean Nuclear Program," was prepared by two members of the task force on terrorism and unconventional warfare under a U.S. House Republican research committee to be submitted to the task force.

According to a copy of the report obtained Thursday by YONHAP, a high-level North Korean delegation, led by Kim Tal-hyon, visited Iran in early December 1992 and signed "a memorandum of understanding" on long-term joint projects.

The memorandum was later described by Iranian sources as "a military agreement worth billions of dollars covering the development of new missile systems capable of carrying nuclear warheads."

The report pointed out that the agreement stipulates that Iran will provide North Korea 500 million U.S. dollars in order "to jointly develop nuclear weapons," as well as a new generation of ballistic missiles optimized for the delivery of nuclear and chemical warheads.

North Korea will assist Iran in establishing a production line for the missile in Isfahan and Semnan, said the report, filed by Yossef Bodansky and Vaughn Forrest and intended to provide discussion and debate in the task force.

A major test firing of the Nodong-1 will take place in Iran, probably the Shahrud area, as part of the joint development program and North Korea agreed to sell Iran several nuclear weapons and provide Tehran with designs for a weapons-grade reprocessing plant, the report said.

Because of the need for western electronic systems in the production of intermediate range ballistic missiles, Iran and North Korea have decided that Libya will be allowed to cooperate in the project, thereby allowing Tehran and Pyongyang to take advantage of Tripoli's al-Fatah ballistic missile effort and to gain access to the German companies and technical experts who are working on the Libyan program, the report said.

To meet Tehran's specifications, the Nodong-1 has been improved to reach 1,300 kilometers with an 800-kilogram warhead, including a chemical or nuclear payload, and this missile will be able to hit 100 cities in 22 countries in the Middle East and central Asia, the report said.

In late March 1993, North Korea completed the development of the upgraded MRBM Nodong-1.

Mubarak Aide: DPRK To Stop Missile Exports to Iran

SK2007134393 Seoul KBS-1 Television Network in Korean 1246 GMT 20 Jul 93

[Text] (Osma al-Baz), special aide to Egyptian President Mubarak on foreign affairs, revealed that North Korea promised the Egyptian Government that it will stop exporting missiles to Iran from late this year. He said that he warned the North Korean special envoy who recently visited Egypt that North Korea's export of missiles to Iran is greatly detrimental to the balance of strength and regional security between Arab countries and Iran. He said that the North Korean side understood this situation.

DPRK Implies Readiness To Allow IAEA Inspection

SK2107025093 Seoul YONHAP in English 0234 GMT 21 Jul 93

[Text] Seoul, July 21 (YONHAP)—North Korea implied a willingness to allow the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) to inspect the two key nuclear sites at Monday's Geneva talks as long as it wasn't called a "special" inspection, a well-informed source said Wednesday.

"North Korea vehemently refused IAEA special inspection of the two sites, insisting it had not done anything wrong to deserve the agency's special inspection, never conducted on any other country," the source said on condition of anonymity.

"But it has said it will negotiate with the IAEA regarding the agency's 'visit' to the two sites," he said. "The United States left the table with a strong feeling that Pyongyang will accept the inspection in a 'varied' form."

Pyongyang and Washington held a second round of high-level nuclear talks in Geneva, where the communist country said it was "prepared to begin consultations" with the IAEA. The joint press statement issued at the end of the discussions did not, however, say anything about North Korea's willingness to subject the two sites to the agency check.

Access to the two sites, believed to store nuclear waste, is thought to be critical in determining exactly how much fissile material it has.

The source was pessimistic that Pyongyang would allow IAEA inspection of the two locations within the "next two months," when North Korea and the United States have agreed to meet again to discuss nuclear and relations-improvement matters.

"Pyongyang is most likely to make the least possible concession by then, just enough to engage Washington in another round of high-level negotiations," he said.

"The Seoul-Washington consensus is that North Korea must take actions satisfactory to the IAEA before the agency's board of governors convene Sept. 22 for talks to resume. This date will be the critical point in deciding whether the international community chooses a softer or tougher stance on North Korea," he said.

Rumors Fly in Pyongyang on 'Fate of Kim Chong-il'

SK1607112193 Seoul YONHAP in English 1109 GMT 16 Jul 93

[Text] Tokyo, July 16 (YONHAP)—Various rumors go about in Pyongyang as to the fate of Kim Chong-il as he failed to show up publicly for the past two and half a months, it was reported here on Friday. Kim Chong-il, who supposedly controls nearly all state affairs in place of his aging father, Kim Il-song, was last publicly seen attending a meeting of art officials in late April. The KYODO news service said in a dispatch from Beijing that some rumors say Kim Chong-il is in discords with his father, while others say he was badly injured in a traffic accident.

It is a matter of great concern among Pyongyang citizens whether Kim Chong-il would attend a mammoth ceremony marking the 40th anniversary of the "victory of war against the United States" set to be held in Pyongyang on July 27.

"If Kim Chong-il does not attend the ceremony either, there would arise a serious problem with respect to the issue of Kim Il-song's heir," KYODO said.

The rumors include that Kim Chong-il, an alcoholic and cigarette-addict, has been stricken by stomach cancer and hospitalzied. Some other rumors allege that he is in discords with the senior Kim after he angered his father by unilaterally deciding on North Korea's withdrawal from the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty.

The report said the diplomatic circles in Pyongyang take the story of his being injured in a traffic accident as the most plausible.

When asked about Kim Chong-il, senior North Korean officials simply say, "Secretary Kim indulges in state affairs day and night assisting president" or "As Secretary Kim is a man of modesty, he does not like to appear in public places often," the KYODO report said.

DPRK Claims on DMZ Provocations 'Groundless'

SK1607140493 Seoul SEOUL SINMUN in Korean 16 Jul 93 p 1

[Text] North Korea's Pyongyang Korean Central News Agency and Pyongyang Television recently claimed that the ROK Army fired more than 100 shells and more than 1,200 rounds from machine guns and rifles at the North Korean side near the Demilitarized Zone. It also alleged that the ROK Navy trespassed North Korea's territorial waters on the west coast, attempting to capture its cargo ship.

Ministry of National Defense Spokesman Kim Yong-chol said on 15 July that this allegation is groundless.

Prosecution To Indict Japanese Journalist 22 Jul

SK2107061393 Seoul YONHAP in English 0540 GMT 21 Jul 93

[Text] Seoul, July 21 (YONHAP)—The prosecution will indict Masato Shinohara, Seoul Bureau chief for Japan's Fuji Television, on Thursday on charges of violating the military secrets protection law, a spokesman for the Seoul District Public Prosecutor's office said Wednesday.

An investigation had added nothing to charges already filed against the Japanese journalist that he had handed 27 out of 50 documents containing important military information to the Army and Air Force attaches at the Japanese Embassy, Prosecutor Yi Chong-tae said. Shinohara is charged with obtaining the documents from Korean Navy Lt. Cmdr. Ko Yong-chol.

"Considering Japanese press reports that the Japanese attaches now have the information they received from Shinohara in the custody of the Japanese self-defense agency, there is no need to question the attaches if the information has been leaked," he said.

Trade, Industry Ministry's Statistics Released

SK1707071593 Seoul YONHAP in English 0555 GMT 17 Jul 93

[Text] Seoul, July 17 (YONHAP)—South Korea recorded a trade deficit of 2,230 million U.S. dollars in the first half of this year. Statistics released by the Trade, Industry and Energy Ministry on Saturday showed that the six-month trade deficit represented a decline of 2,957 million dollars from the corresponding period of 1992. It said that exports in the January-June period totaled 39,050 million dollars, up 6.4 percent over a year before, and imports 41, 280 million dollars, down 1.5 percent.

In June alone, exports amounted to 7,282 million dollars and imports 7,528 million dollars, registering a deficit of 246 million dollars.

By country, South Korea's exports to China rose 97.0 percent in the first six months of this year over the like period of the previous year, while shipment to the United States declined 4.3 percent from a year before. The sluggish exports to the United States were attributable to the reduced shipment of cars and containers caused largely by protracted labor disputes.

As a result, the share of exports to the United States, Japan and the European Community in the total exports in the first half of this year stood at 47.6 percent compared with 50.8 percent a year earlier.

The share of exports to China, on the other hand, was 6.2 percent of the total exports in the first six months of this year, compared with 5.4 percent in the year earlier.

Exports to Japan in the January-June period declined 5.5 percent from a year earlier while imports shrank by only 1.1 percent to record a deeper trade imbalance in Japan's favor this year.

Trade with most developing countries other than Middle East nations recorded a surplus, the figures showed.

PRC Approves Import of 5,000-6,000 Autos

SK1707015993 Seoul YONHAP in English 0107 GMT 17 Jul 93

[Text] Seoul, July 17 (YONHAP)—The Chinese Government approved imports of 5,000-6,000 South Korean automobiles in May and the purchasing delegation will arrive in Seoul next month, industry sources said Saturday. It is the first time that the Central Government of China approved formal imports of completely assembled South Korean cars.

The delegation had been scheduled to arrive in Seoul early this month, but it was delayed because two organizations of Chinese Government were competing to be the importer, the sources said. They are the China National Automotive Industry Import and Export Corp. and the China National Automotive Industry Corp.

The decision was made because the Central Government's ban on imports of Korean cars has run into provincial governments' resistance. The Central Government also acknowledges competitive quality of South Korean cars, sources said.

Chinese agents had been importing Korean cars by illegal means or some Korean cars were taken into China for foreign investors operating in tax-free zones in China.

When Korean cars are imported, the Chinese Government is to impose a 180-percent tariff on them. Even with the high rate of tariff, the market price for 1,800 cc Korean car will be 280,000 yuan (49,000 U.S. dollars), or 20,000 yuan cheaper than that for a comparable Chinese car, they said.

China bans in principle imports of completely assembled automobiles but exceptionally allows public officials, diplomats or foreign investors to import and use foreign assembled cars.

Former Army Commander Said To Receive Defense Money

SK1607114293 Seoul YONHAP in English 1103 GMT 16 Jul 93

[Text] Seoul, July 16 (YONHAP)—Cho Nam-pung, who has just been removed from his duty as First Army commander, was known to have received 300 million won from a defense industry during his days as commander of the Defense Security Command, it was learned on Friday. A senior official at the Board of Audit and Inspection said it was learned in the course of an investigation of Yulgok irregularities that Cho took 300 million won from Ms. Han Yong-cha, president of the Samyang Chemical Co., a tear gas producer.

The official said Cho first took 100 million won from Han, which he used as unit operation expenses. Later, he received another 200 million won from Han to make up for the 200 million won in his personal money used as unit operation expenses, the official said.

The official said it was also found that Chang Sok-kyu, presently president of the Sung-up Co., took 10 million won from a businessman during his service as chief of staff of the Defense Security Command. "We have notified this to the Finance Ministry, the supervisor of the state-run Sung-up Co. We understand Chang will be removed from the duty very soon," the official added.

Chon Tu-hwan Awarded Medal for 'Chungjong' Role

SK1707071893 Seoul YONHAP in English 0603 GMT 17 Jul 93

[Text] Seoul, July 17 (YONHAP)—A "meritorious role" in the Chungjong operation, a nation-wide army plan to contain anti-government movements in 1980, was one of the reasons for the government to confer the order of military merit, Taeguk, on Former President Chon Tu-hwan, according to the Government Administration Ministry Saturday [17 July].

A ministry reply to a written questionnaire by Rep. Kang Chang-song of the opposition Democratic Party [DP] said that "the reasons for conferring the medal on Defense Security Commander Chon Tu-hwan who retired from active service on Aug. 22, 1980, were his meritorious role in Chungjong operation, uncovering of the third (North Korea-built) underground passageway and contribution to the national security, and social stability and order in the wake of the Oct. 26 incident."

Chungjong was the codename of a nation-wide army operation aimed at repressing violent demonstrations, the core part of which was suppressing the demonstrations in Kwangju.

Chon, then a strongman in the army, has been suspected by his critics of having involved himself in the military suppression of the Kwangju popular uprising, which was later officially named as "democratization movement." But he and his aides have denied his direct role in it, particularly in connection with a military order to open fire at the demonstrators.

Increased Energy Trade Sought With Australia

SK1807060793 Seoul YONHAP in English 0530 GMT 18 Jul 93

[Text] Seoul, July 18 (YONHAP)—South Korea and Australia will discuss increased cooperation in the development of energy resources in the 11th Korea-Australia Natural Resources Cooperation Committee meeting slated for July 20-21 in Canberra.

South Korea will be represented by Third Assistant Minister of Trade, Industry, and Energy Kim Tae-kon.

The meeting will focus on expanded trade of energy sources between the two countries, South Korean corporate investment in the development of Australian energy resources in joint ventures with Australian enterprises, and increased technical cooperation and information exchange in the energy industry.

South Korea will seek to import liquefied natural gas (LNG) from Australia under its plan to diversidy the LNG import markets.

Last year, South Korea imported 1.604 billion U.S. dollars worth of iron ore, coal and other energy sources from Australia.

Government Reduces Civil Service Staffing by 219

SK1907033393 Seoul YONHAP in English 0055 GMT 19 Jul 93

[Text] Seoul, July 19 (YONHAP)—The civil service grew in the first two months of the year, but has shrunk since a new government was inaugurated in March, Government Administration Ministry officials said Monday.

At the end of June, there were 896,254 civil servants, which compares with 868,386 a year earlier. The increase came under the last administration and the current administration has began a reduction in the number of government officials.

The number of civil servants at the end of June was 158 lower than at the end of February, when it was 896,412.

Jobs were cut by merging the Culture Ministry and the Sports and Youth Ministry into the Culture and Sports ministry, which put 70 officials out of work. The Trade and Industry Ministry and the Energy and Resources Ministry merged into the Trade, Industry and Energy Ministry, removing 69 officials.

The Presidential Secretariat and the Prime Minister's Office of Administrative Coordination slimmed by seven officials each, and the Prime Minister's Secretariat by five officials.

Two ministers and two vice ministers were laid off, three officials in grade one, eight officials in grade two, one official in grade three, 17 officials in grade four, 27 officials in grade five, 30 officials in grade six and below, and 68 functional officials.

Seoul city and other local administrations cut 49 officials and six officials from their payrolls, respectively.

Total reduction is 213 government officials under the new government.

"The government plans to remove additional unnecessary lower officials and by the middle of August it will have got rid of another 250-odd," an official said.

Dispatch of Peacekeepers to Somalia Postponed

SK1907024093 Seoul YONHAP in English 0147 GMT 19 Jul 93

[Text] Seoul, July 19 (YONHAP)—South Korea is again delaying the dispatch of the main contingent of its 250-man army engineering unit to Somalia, putting it back to July 30 from this Wednesday [21 July], the Defense Ministry announced Monday.

The postponement is due to uncertain circumstances caused by discord between the United Nations and Italy on handling of the peacekeeping operations, specifically Rome's criticism of a U.S.-led air attack on Somali warlord Mohamed Farrah Aidid's headquarters.

Italian soldiers are in charge of monitoring the boundaries where the South Korean unit is to be posted, but there is talk of an Italian withdrawal from the operation, ministry officials said.

Korea needs to watch further how the situation develops and the decision by the Italian forces, they said.

Officer's Involvement in 'Political Terrorism' Confirmed

SK2107071393 Seoul YONHAP in English 0626 GMT 21 Jul 93

[Text] Seoul, July 21 (YONHAP)—The prosecution said Wednesday that it had been able to confirm that retired Gen. Yi Chin-sam was deeply involved in political terrorism against opposition leaders, including the current president, Kim Yong-sam, as head of the Army Intelligence Command (AIC) in the mid-1980s.

The Seoul District Prosecutors' office had questioned AIC Lt. Col. Yi Sang-pom, Paek Sung-mok, a retired colonel who headed the AIC's technical support group while in active service, and terrorist team member Kim Yong-chun about Yi's involvement, a spokesman said. Lt. Col. Yi told the prosecution that AIC Brig. Gen. Han Chin-ku, formerly chief of the AIC division three and presently the representative of a country club, had ordered him to break into the home of Kim Yong-sam, who was a co-chairman of the opposition group Minchuhyup at the time, to steal some papers and that he had also led terrorist teams himself, he said.

The prosecution will soon seek an arrest warrant for Han, who recently told the military prosecution that Gen. Yi instructed him to meet a key defense security command officer in connection with the break-in plan. Han has refusing to report to the prosecution again after he was released from an initial questioning.

Paek, meanwhile, admitted that he went to a police station to pick up Kim Hyong-tu, a member of the terrorist team, soon after Kim made a declaration of conscience on his involvement in the political terrorism on April 29, 1986, at Yi Chin-sam's instructions. But he denied he had been aware of the political terrorism in advance.

The prosecution is investigating the 1985 break-in by a team of civilians recruited by an army intelligence officer in the home of Kim Yong-sam and the assault in 1986 on Yang Sun-chik, then vice president of the now-defunct new Democratic Party.

Further Reportage on Yulgok Invesitgation

Prosecution Ends Probe

SK1907082593 Seoul YONHAP in English 0756 GMT 19 Jul 93

[Cho Se-hyon]

[Text] Seoul, July 19 (YONHAP)—The prosecution, leaving a trail of suspicion behind, has wound up its investigation of alleged irregularities in the Yulgok military buildup program with the arrests of two former defense ministers and the navy and air force chiefs of staff.

Taking an unusual step, the Seoul District Prosecutor's Office assigned top-notch investigators and managed to bring cases against the former full generals, dubbed "16 falling stars," following an intensive probe that lasted nine days.

But the prosecution failed to uncover the fundamental structure of corruption believed to have taken root in the weapons selection system of the mind-boggling 30 trillion-won project.

In fact, because it uncovered only the personal wrongdoing of four former top officials, many suspect the prosecution of taking a deliberate detour lest it run into a huge and unmanageable core of corruption.

Nevertheless, credit has to be given to the prosecution for its success in excising rotten parts of the military establishment, long regarded as "the sanctuary" from any official scrutiny under a succession of military governments.

The prosecution's courageous feat in uncovering bribe-taking by the former top military officials from arms manufacturers and dealers and the misappropriation of military welfare funds is significant in itself.

The revelation, at least, sent shock waves through the nation as the military officials responsible for national security were said to have taken advantage of their positions and fattened themselves by soliciting or accepting kickbacks and payments in billions of won.

Especially, former Defense Minister Yi Chong-ku and former Chief of Naval Operations Kim Chol-u betrayed their moral insensitivity and corrupt natures when they described the hundreds of millions of won they had received from arms dealers as "pocket money," prosecution sources said.

Moreover, most people are disgusted with them because the bribes they took reached astronomical figures.

While checking bank accounts and traces of financial transactions of the four arrested officials, one prosecutor said he was flabbergasted by the tens of billions of won that had changed hands or been deposited in real or assumed names of politically and socially prominent people.

Although some of those money had no direct link with the Yulgok project and therefore were not subjects of investigation, he said, their amounts went far beyond the imagination of ordinary people.

Despite their efforts, however, the prosecutors could not escape public criticism that their investigation of the Yulgok project was destined to be limited to briberies involving individual persons. The prosecution completely ignored recommendations from the Board of Audit and Inspection (BAI) to look into such areas as arbitrary determination of prices of purchasing weapons and the selection as Korea's next-generation fighter aircraft of a plane of inferior quality or greater cost.

Other BAI recommendations involved the case in which the government signed contracts with foreign manufacturers to buy certain weapons and yet paid commissions to intermediaries.

Even before the BAI referred the result of its probe on irregularities in the Yulgok project, the prosecution had leaked information to the public that it would limit its investigation only to what the BAI had already found out. It obviously had drawn a line for itself beyond which it would not go.

This prosecution policy became apparent in the case of Kwon Yong-ho, younger brother of Defense Minister Kwon Yong-hae, who was referred by the BAI to the prosecution for accepting 50 million won from an arms manufacturer. Despite this, the prosecution balked until it was widely reported in the press.

The prosecution also earned public suspicion by not openly summoning top leaders of the country's leading conglomerates, including Kim U-chung of the Daewoo Business Group, to question them about their roles in connection with the Yulgok project.

In short, the prosecution has only managed to prosecute four former senior military officials when the general public had expected it to reveal the truth about the project, into which billions upon billions of tax-payers money have been poured for decades.

To Indict Former Top Military Leaders

SK1907083293 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 19 Jul 93 p 3

[Text] Four former top military leaders were formally arrested Saturday for taking bribes from arms dealers, ending a week-long investigation into irregularities surrounding the Yulgok weapons procurement project.

They will be indicted this week on charges of violation of the Law on Added Punishment of Specific Crimes as applied to bribes of 10 million won or more, the Prosecutor General's Office [PGO] said.

The four, all of whom are retired four-star generals, are former defense ministers Yi Chong-ku and Yi Sang-hun, former Air Force chief of staff Han Chu-sok, and former chief of Naval Operations Kim Chol-u.

The PGO also put under arrest Chong Ui-song, president of Haksan Industrial co., on charges of offering bribes to Adm, Kim Chol-u.

Eight other arms brokers and executives of local defense contractors who allegedly gave money in connection with the "Yulgok Project," a military buildup program, were booked criminally without physical detention. They will be prosecuted this week together with the arrested retired generals.

They include Chong Mong-ku, chairman of Hyundai Precision & Industry; Cho Chung-kon, vice chairman of Korean Air; Yun Chon-hyon, advisor of Samsung Aerospace Industries; Pak Tae-sin, former chairman of Chinro Construction; and Han Yong-cha, chairman of Samyang Chemical Co.

However, the PGO suspended indictment of Kim Chong-hwi, former security affairs advisor for ex-President No Tae-u, who allegedly took 130 million won in bribes from arms dealers in the payoff scandal because he is now in the United States.

A PGO announcement said that Yi Sang-hun was suspected of receiving 30 million won from Hyundai Precision & Industry in connection with the supply of parts for Korean-produced K-1 tanks and of embezzling 120 million won which Daewoo Group chairman Kim U-chung asked him to deliver to Chong Ho-yong who was running in a Taegu by-election. Yi was additionally charged with embezzlement.

Yi Chong-ku was found to have received 150 million won in bribes from Chinro Construction with regard to the building of military facilities.

The former Navy chief allegedly took bribes from Chong of Haksan, a Korean arms agent for German-built submarine and key equipment supplier for Korean-made destroyers.

The former Air Force chief of staff is suspected of receiving 163 million won in bribes from five Korean arms dealers. Han was also accused of embezzlement in connection with the misappropriation of 162 million won from the Air Force Welfare Fund, the announcement said.

Suspicions Remain Over Probe Result

SK1907104793 Seoul TONG-A ILBO in Korean 19 Jul 93 p 31

[Report by Yang Ki-tae]

[Text] The prosecution has released its investigation result of Defense Minister Kwon Yong-hae's brother Kwon Yong-ho, 51, and Chong Ui-sung, head of Haksan Industrial Company, an intermediary arms dealer, in connection with the allegation that Kwon Yong-ho had received 50 million won from Chong and returned it to him. The conclusion of the investigation is that the money in question was what Kwon Yong-ho borrowed for business and had no ties to Minister Kwon. The following is an explanation of the case provided by the prosecution:

One day in August 1992, Kwon Yong-ho met Kwak Yong-ki, a military goods supplier with whom he has been acquainted for a long time, at a hotel coffeeshop in Seoul. By chance, they met Chong Ui-sung there, and Kwak introduced him to Kwon.

Chong and Kwak became acquainted with each other while going to the same church. At that time, Kwon Yong-ho was running a military supply contract firm producing bean sauce for noodles in Kimhae, South Kyongsang Province. Until October 1992, he met Chong whenever he visited Seoul. In his fourth meeting with Chong, Kwon said in casual conversation that his company's financial situation was bad.

When he met Kwon in November 1992, Chong handed over to him a bankbook with a 50-million won balance. Kwon said that he would issue an IOU, but Chong rejected it, saying it was unnecessary. Thus, it is documented that Chong actively loaned the money to Kwon. Kwon promised Chong that he would repay it in April or May 1993 when his company would begin providing military supplies on a full scale.

Around March 1993, Kwon spent 40 million won out of the 50 million won—the money in question—to clear the bill for raw materials and for private use and transferred 10 million won to his own bank account. However, as soon as the inspection of the Yulgok project began, he got 50 million won somehow and paid it back to Chong around 10 May.

An authority involved in the investigation said: According to a follow-up investigation of the checks for 40 million won that Kwon spent, 12 million won was withdrawn in cash. However, there is no evidence that the money was diverted to Minister Kwon.

Meanwhile, Chong said that he had maintained the relationship with Kwon because he wanted to install Kwon's brother then-Deputy Defense Minister Kwon Yong-hae, who was appointed to the position as soon as the new government came in office, as an adviser for his company if he quit the position. Chong mentioned that he had acted as an intermediary for most of the arms purchased by the Navy. However, he had never acted as an intermediary for any arms deals for the Army. Therefore, he stressed that he needed a lobbyist for the Army.

The prosecution emphasized: Chong neither gave money to Minister Kwon nor did he make a telephone call to him and that Kwon Yong-ho has never told his brother about Chong.

Did Chong approach Kwon Yong-ho and loan the money to him for investment purposes as the prosecution explained? What was the purpose of Chong's intention to install Minister Kwon as a lobbyist for his company? Is it true that Minister Kwon did not know about the dealing of tens of millions won between Chong and his brother? People still have many suspicions concerning this case.

Defense Ministry Disciplines Employees

SK2107023793 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 21 Jul 93 p 3

[Text] The Defense Ministry yesterday disciplined 50 of the 53 military officers and civilian employees who the Board of Audit and Inspection (BAI) notified were involved in irregularities surrounding the Yulgok arms buildup program.

A special disciplinary committee, presided over by Army Lt. Gen. Chang Song, dismissed two Navy officers including Capt. To Chong-il, holding them accountable for irregularities which they had committed during their stints in the Military Logistics Headquarters.

The panel took the disciplinary measures in line with the results of probes which a screening committee chaired by Vice Defense Minister Yi Su-hyu had conducted of the 53 officers and civilian employees with the aid of investigation materials supplied by the BAI.

Included in the 53-man list were Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Cho Kun-hae; Lt. Gen. Choe Kyong-kun, commander of the Army Logistics Command; two major generals, one brigadier general; 26 colonels and majors; and 19 civilians.

The ministry dropped the case against Gen. Cho last week, because it found in its own probe that Cho made only slight mistakes in procedural matters.

Nine field-grade officers and civilians assigned to the Military Logistics Headquarters were disciplined to be transferred to other posts.

The committee also disciplined six general-grade officers including Rear Adm. Pak Yun-yong, commander of the Navy Logistics Command, and a graduate from the

Korea Military Academy's 18th Class, for their irregularities in the course of weapons and equipment procurement.

Ten officers and civilians working at the Agency for Defense Development (ADD) and the Center for Quality Control of Weapons and Equipment were discharged of their posts in accordance with the disciplinary actions.

A senior member of the committee said that it ordered service branches to take proper steps against 20 officers who were disciplined, delivering their lists to respective headquarters.

He said that the disciplined general-grade officers would have no alternative but to retire from active-duty service.

Government Issues Warning to Hyundai Strikers

SK1907023693 Seoul YONHAP in English 0124 GMT 19 Jul 93

[Text] Seoul, July 19 (YONHAP)—The government is likely to invoke its emergency right to adjust labor disputes or close work sites if the impasse at Hyundai group companies isn't resolved by Tuesday [20 July].

Stressing that the more than 1.2 trillion won (1.4 billion U.S. dollars) the 45-day-long dispute has cost the economy so far may well derail its economic plan, the government is said to have decided to roll up its sleeves to do whatever it takes to settle the conflict within this week.

A high-ranking government official noted Monday that President Kim Yong-sam has issued a strong warning against the prolonged dispute at Hyundai affiliates, saying that he wouldn't sit back and watch any longer but would make a "grave decision".

Kim was expected to make his grave decision if the dispute was not settled among the parties involved by Tuesday, the deadline set by Labor Minister Yi In-che, the official said.

The official strongly hinted at the possibility of lockouts at Hyundai affiliates stricken with intense conflicts, and said that this week would determine whether the problem ended peacefully or draw strong action from the government.

Yi flew to Ulsan and visited Hyundai plants over the weekend in his last and best shot, and will soon report to the president on his trip.

The Labor Ministry is said to be closely examining the possibility of invoking the labor minister's emergency power of adjustment.

"The best solution to the problem is liberal settlement through negotiations," the official said, but warned that the government would not wait any longer if all its efforts to encourage a peaceful end were brought to nought by early this week.

While time is fast running out, Hyundai executives and union negotiators are scheduled to hold talks Monday in the hope to settle their differences themselves.

If the labor minister uses his power of emergency adjustment, which has never been invoked before, unionists are barred from disputes for 20 days. Any job actions during the period are illegal.

If the union pusheas ahead with job actions, there is a great possibility that the government will send in the police, which is expected to make matters worse.

Invokes Emergency Power To Settle Dispute

SK2007043493 Seoul YONHAP in English 0244 GMT 20 Jul 93

[Text] Seoul, July 20 (YONHAP)—The government announced Tuesday that it will invoke its emergency right to settle labor disputes at Hyundai Motor Co. in the hope of ending 46 days of strife at nine Hyundai affiliates in Ulsan that has cost the economy 1.23 trillion won so far.

"The government announces that it will use its power to adjust the disputes of Hyundai Motor Co.," Labor Minister Yi In-che said after attending an economy-related cabinet meeting presided over by Prime Minister Hwang In-song.

"We arrived at such decision because we can't further expect a peaceful conclusion through labor-management negotiations on seeing little progress in the matter when there is only a day to go before the labor union resumes its strike," Yi said.

The Hyundai Motor dispute had done major damage to the economy and without emergency action there was a great possibility that it would continue for a long time, Yi said in explaining the government move.

The union at Hyundai Motor, a major automaker and the biggest employer of the nine Hyundai affiliates in Ulsan, threatened to begin a two-day partial strike on Wednesday and stage a 24-hour strike on Friday.

The government hopes its action will help move workers at the other Hyundai affiliates to return to work.

"The Labor Ministry will do its best to bring labor and management to an agreement even during the emergency adjustment period," Yi promised.

The labor minister's power to settle diputes has been backed by clause 40-44 of the Labor Dispute Control Law since 1963 and was invoked but once to settle labor strife at the Daehan Shipping Corp. in 1969.

The power takes immediate effect, depriving Hyundai Motor unionists of their right to stage any form of job action until Aug. 8, 20 days after the announcement.

Any job action during this period is illegal and the penalty for violating the law or proposals of mediation presented by the Central Labor Committee is a prison term of two years or less, or a fine of up to 5 million won.

The Labor Ministry gained the approval to use its power from the three-member Central Labor Committee, representing labor, management and the public, a day earlier.

It is now up to the Central Committee to settle the dispute by determining a set of proposals to mediate after 10 days.

The proposals have binding force and if either side has a complaint they have to file an administrative suit.

The ministry hoped last-minute talks at Hyundai Motor would meet with success and not lead to the emergency measure, which means a failure to the new government's free industrial policy.

The government will have to send in the police to wrestle with workers as past administrations did if the union proceeds with its job actions.

Riot Police Move to Work Sites

SK2007044693 Seoul YONHAP in English 0307 GMT 20 Jul 93

[Text] Seoul, July 20 (YONHAP)—After the goverment decided to invoke its power to enforce peace and mediate the labor strife at Hyundai Motor Co. Tuesday [20 July], some 1,800 riot policmen from nearby regions were stationed at Ulsan work sites in case unionists continued their job action.

Workers staging any form of labor struggle during the 20-day emergency adjustment period will be regarded as having violated the law and may face imprisonment up to two years and fines up to 5 million won.

The Seoul Police Administration will also send 2,200 riot policemen to Ulsan to prepare for the worst. The police will be immediately go into the automaking plant and arrest strikers.

It had decided to send in policemen to the work sites on reports that Chonnohyop (National Coalition of Trade Unions) representative Tan Pyong-ho and Hyonchongnyon (Federation of Trade Unions of Hyundai Group Companies) Proxy Chairman Yi Hong-u, wanted for propelling a job action at Hyundai affiliates as third parties, were hiding there.

Seven Hyonchongnyon and Chonnohyop members are wanted for involvement in the Hyundai disputes although they are third parties.

Police Enter Factory 21 Jul

SK2107020993 Seoul YONHAP in English 0143 GMT 21 Jul 93

[Text] Changwon, South Kyongsang Province, July 21 (YONHAP)—The government, which invoked emergency powers to resolve the labor disputes at Hyundai Group companies Tuesday, sent some 1,000 policemen into the Hyundai Precision and Industry Co. factory on Wednesday morning to arrest union leaders and evict 400 unionists who had been staging a sit-in overnight.

About 1,400 policemen were stationed in front of three factory gates at around 5 A.M., to block workers from entering the company compound. With the arrival of additional police from Pusan and Taegu at about 8 A.M., the 1,000 policemen, firing tear gas, entered the company premises removing barricades erected by militant union workers.

Some 200 of the 400 unionists who had been staging the sit-in overnight shut themselves behind steel doors in the plant to block the police entry.

The police took at least 60 workers into custody but failed to arrest five labor leaders, including Hwang Ho-nam, 31, chairman of the union, for whom the arrest warrants had been issued, sources said.

Sensing an imminent police raid, they had apparently escaped from the company compound on Tuesday night, the sources said.

Prior to the early morning raid, police urged a surrender of the five union leaders and removal of the barricades. Management had also tried unsuccessfully to persuade the labor union to comply with the police order.

Hyundai Precision and Industry has held no fewer than 22 negotiating sessions since April 27 but the union and management were unable to narrow their differences. Among other issues, the company offered a wage hike of 4.3 percent while the union demanded an increase of 15.8 percent.

The labor union reported to the government its intention to wage a strike on June 17 and had been staging partial strikes for more than a month before starting a general strike July 19.

The prosecution had obtained the arrest warrants for Hwang and other union leaders on suspicion of leading illegal strikes against the company, which is classified by the government as a first class defense industry company, prohibiting job actions.

The unionists, who had been holed up in the plant behind steel doors, gave themselves up less than two hours after police barged into the company premises.

There were no major incidents, officials said.

Police took at least 248 workers to police stations in Changwon and Masan and questioned them to find out who led the strikes and how the job actions were organized.

Police searched the union office while the company mobilized about 100 managerial employees to remove barricades and tents that strikers had built on the premises.

Union 'Tentatively' Accepts Offer

SK2107021593 Seoul YONHAP in English 0148 GMT 21 Jul 93

[Text] Ulsan, South Kyongsang Province, July 21 (YONHAP)—Labor and management of Hyundai Motor Co. tentatively agreed on pay hike and other major issues early Wednesday, a day after the government forced employees to return to work under its emergency powers to intervene in labor disputes that pose a serious threat to the economy.

The union will put company proposals that include a 19,000 won rise in the monthly allowance, a 650-percent bonus, and 5 billion won in support for housing to a vote of the membership.

After the government invoked its right to regulate the dispute at 11 A.M. Tuesday, union and management negotiators conducted eight rounds of marathon talks ending at dawn. The agreement came after the company side showed a positive response to a 10-point union proposal presented early in the morning.

Workers at the automaker have downed tools for 10 hours a day since June 16, causing lost sales of 390 billion won so far.

* Large Firms Link-Up With Local Farm Producers

932C0144A Seoul CHUGAN MAEKYONG in Korean 26 May 93 pp 70-72

[Article by reporter Kang Yong-ku: "Firms Come Out To 'Save the Countryside'; 54 Firms Participate in the 'One Firm, One Village Campaign'"]

[Text] As the opening up to agricultural imports draws near, our rural communities are facing a difficult time. To support them, a variety of campagins are being carried out all over our society.

The "One County, One Special Product Campaign," "Direct Urban-Rural Trade Campaign," "Patronize Our Farm Products Campaign," and "One Firm, One Village Campaign" have been taking place lately. Our rural communities are struggling to survive due to an increase in the exodus from the countryside, the aging of farmers, and pressure to open our markets by advanced nations with strong competitive power.

Unlike previous government campaigns (run by Seoul, the Ministry of Home Affairs, etc.), the "One Firm, One Village Campaign" which began last August has been carried out purely by civil organizations, such as the National Agricultural Cooperative Federation, the Korea Chamber of Commerce and Industry, and the Lions Club. For this reason, public interest has been aroused.

With regard to the "One Firm, One Village Campaign," a total of 54 enterprises have formed sister relationships with local agricultural cooperatives and villages. This includes 49 industrial enterprises, such as the Cheil Woolen Textile Company, Hyundai Automobile Company, Mando Machine Company, and Woo-joo Precision Instrument Company, and five agriculture and fishing enterprises, including the Korea Food Development Research Institute. It is said that many other enterprises are seeking such relationships through the National Agricultural Cooperative Federation [NACF] and the Korea Chamber of Commerce and Industry in order to participate in such campaigns.

The Lion Club's 106 branches nationwide are also going forward, setting up sister relationships with local agricultural cooperatives. Currently, 46 of the branches have already done so, and another 31 are due to follow in May.

The "One Firm, One Village Campaign" extended nationwide the urban-rural exchange program that had been sporadically implemented in the past. It has contributed much to promoting mutual understanding between the two areas. Therefore, it is looked upon as a perfect model for the "Urban-Rural Exchange Program" to adopt.

The main activities in the "One Firm, One Village Campaign" that are being emphasized as the NACF and other participating firms begin the campaign for close ties are as follows: lending a helping hand, patronizing our farm products, arranging private lodging and recreational facilities in rural communities, setting up exchanges between urban and rural children, protecting and preserving the pleasant rural environment, holding meetings to strengthen unity with enterprises, providing products to improve the living environment, awarding scholarships, and providing medical services, etc.

Of these activites, the easiest and most effective is the "helping hand campaign," which is carried out along with the "donate farm machinery campaign." When local branches of agricultural cooperatives advise their sister firms of the time and type of work needed by farmers during the busy season, the sister firms supply the available manpower, promoting friendly relations with their sister villages.

The "Patronize Our Farm Products Campaign" is earnestly needed, since the all-out opening of the import market is drawing near. In order to promote this campaign, firms are even contemplating ordering certain special products produced by their sister villages to be used as presents for the firms' employees on festive days. They are already using the existing trade of general farm products between firms and villages.

As for the "Campaign to Arrange Private Lodging and Recreational Facilities in Rural Communities," the related agricultural cooperatives help employees of sister firms who are on vacation find private lodging, provide tours of farming zones, and provide places such as vacant school rooms for firms to use for certain events.

Through the "Program for Exchanges Between Urban and Rural Children," urban children experience farming and rural life, while rural children visit plants and cultural facilities. Thus the children receive a correct understanding of urban and rural life.

In addition, once a month agricultural cooperatives and their sister firms jointly participate in a campaign to preserve the rural environment, disposing of trash, collecting empty agricultural chemical bottles and used plastic products, and cleaning up the villages. To improve the rural living environment, firms actively supply articles to improve kitchens and bathrooms, and install heaters in rooms; the concern and love between the villages and cooperatives and the firms is advancing actively.

These activities are being conducted by mutual agreement of the sister firms and the agricultural cooperatives and villages, while keeping in mind the various regional conditions characteristics of the villages.

On 3 September of last year, the Inchon Iron Company set up a sister relationship with Yaksan Village, Daegos-myon, Kimpo-kun, Kyonggi Province, and pursued activities such as the "direct trade of farm products," "helping hand," and the "urban-rural children's exchange program, etc. Up to now, it has purchased farm products for employees' meals worth a total of 90 million won, including about 2,000 bags of rice and 10 million won worth of grapes. It also carried out "helping hand campaigns" on at least six occasions throughout the year.

In return, this year Yaksan Village supplied free of charge five pyong each to 100 employees of the Inchon Iron Company, and it has helped them raise and gather vegetables on the farm on the weekends.

The Hyundai Automobile Company, which set up a partnership with Hwalcho Village, Namyang-myon, Hwasong-kun, Kyonggi Province last 12 October, donated three farm machines and paved some 800 meters of road in the village. In November and December, the season for making kimjang, it arranged sales of kimjang vegetables by village farmers to firm employees. In addition, in January of this year, the Hyundai Automobile Company invited farmers from its sister village to visit its plant, and from time to time it has offered employment to village children.

The Korea Food Development Research Institute, which set up a sister relationship with Yichon Agricultural Cooperative, Yichon-kun, Kyonggi Province last 15 October, is carrying out urban-rural exchanges, such as hands-on farming, nature studies, helping hands, etc., and directly trading good farm products such as Yichon rice.

The Dongyang Confectionery Company made a contract with the Yongdong Agricultural Cooperative, Chongup-kun, Chonbuk Province, to purchase potatoes raised on its 10,000 pyong. Last October it purchased the potatoes at 7,800 won per 20-kilogram box. Through the "One Firm, One Village Campaign," farmers were able to farm without worrying about sales, and the company could purchase potatoes at prices lower than in the open market.

Samhwa Electronics Company, which set up a sister relationship with the Dongtan Agricultural Cooperative, Dongtan-myon, Hwasong-kun, Kyonggi Province last 12 November, provided its employees with tickets allowing them to purchase farm products and pay for them at the end of the month. By doing this, the company was able to carry out the special regional product purchasing campaign. Furthermore, it was able to set up publicity activities for special regional farm products, either by mobilizing employees as publicity agents or by making use of its bulletin boards.

Woo-joo Precision Instrument Company, which set up a sister relationship with the Daegos Agricultural Cooperative, Daegos-myon, Kimpo-kun, Kyonggi Province last 13 October, has been using only rice produced in the community in its cafeteria, as part of its direct trade activities. The company is planning a large-scale purchase grapes from the region this summer.

Cheil Woolen Textile Company, which set up a partnership with the Kwangtan Agricultural Cooperative, Kwangtan-myon, Paju-kun, Kyonggi Province last 28 November, carried out a weekend seed-planting event on a farm in Balhwang Village in March of this year. It plans a campaign to donate farm machinery, such as rice-seeding machines, before the rice-planting season. It is also planning helping hand and direct agricultural trade activities.

Hyundai Elevator Company, which set up a sister relationship with Osung-2 Village, Yul-myon, Yichon-kun, Kyonggi Province last October, built an arch at the entrance of the village and has been carrying out helping hand activities. Kefico Corporation also set up a sister relationship with Changjon Village, Namyang-myon, Hwasong-kun, Kyonggi Province last November. It is carrying out the "One Firm, One Village Campaign," inviting inhabitants to visit the plant and employing their children.

Unlike these firms, the Lions Club, a social service organization with a nationwide network system, is going forward with campaigns to set up sister relationships with farming villages all over the country. Together with the "Patronize Our Farm Products Campaign," it is awarding scholarships to children of sister villages in order to inspire interest in farming.

On the eleventh of this month in Suwon Gymnasium, the Lions Club 309-G (Kyonggi branch) set up a sister relationship with the Kyonggi Province branch of the agricultural cooperative. It adopted the "Resolution To Patronize Our Farm Products," vowing to participate actively in the farm products campaign and spread such campaigns all over the country. It also vowed to continue developing a movement to boycott foreign farm products in order to protect the livelihood of the nation's 6 million farmers and the health of its 40 million people.

Mr. Han Tae-hong, chief of the Structural Improvement Section at the NACF, said "Hitherto, during the period when agriculture generally received aid from the government and public officials, the 'Rural Support Campaign' was apt to be regarded as merely an exhibition, with no discernible effect. However, the 'One Firm, One Village Campaign' has an enormous effect, because it benefits both firms and rural communities."

Han also said, "Last year, in its initial stage, the NACF carried out 'sister relationship campaigns' in conjunction with the Korea Chamber of Commerce and Industry on at least three occasions, and the campaigns were successful." Therefore this year, in its second stage, it is actively planning to promote the "One Firm, One Village Campaign" by establishing a sister relationship between voluntary firms and local agricultural cooperatives, and encourage many firms to actively participate.

Cambodia

Sihanouk Bows to U.S. Pressure on Meeting Khmer Rouge

BK2007115493 Phnom Penh National Voice of Cambodia Radio Network in Cambodian 1100 GMT 20 Jul 93

[Statement by His Royal Highness Prince Norodom Sihanouk in Beijing on 19 July—"unofficially" translated, apparently from French; read by announcer]

[Text] In spite of my repeated statements, the United States continues to threaten Cambodia unofficially with all sorts of hostile measures should I or the Cambodian Government accept the Khmer Rouge as government members or advisers, or members of the Cambodian National Armed Forces.

I have always fought all types of foreign interference in Cambodia's internal affairs. But with Cambodia devastated and in need of the aid and support of rich foreign powers, I am no longer up to the task of fighting the United States as I did from 1955 to 1975. Moreover, I have been frequently angered by the U.S.' incessant warnings, which have made me even more ill than I was in the recent past. So, as not to spend my final days in a mental institution, I hereby abandon my plans to organize in September 1993, or later, a roundtable discussion with Mr. Khieu Samphan or any other member of the Khmer Rouge.

Done in Beijing on 19 July 1993

[Signed] Norodom Sihanouk

Foreign Minister To Attend ASEAN Conference

BK2007154493 Hong Kong AFP in English 0830 GMT 20 Jul 93

[Text] PHNOM PENH, July 20 (AFP)—The foreign minister of Cambodia's interim government, Prince Norodom Sirivut, said Tuesday he would attend the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) talks in Singapore this week. The prince told reporters that the invitation granted to Cambodia showed ASEAN's firm support for the government elected in U.N.-organized polls in May.

"They would like to show to the international community that ASEAN supports strongly our government," he said, adding that he and six Cambodian officials had been invited as "special guests."

"We are not members; we are not observers," he said.

ASEAN organizers had said they would discuss Cambodia's reconstruction at the conference. Regional diplomats also said a continuation of the U.N. presence in Cambodia would be discussed at the two-day talks beginning Friday.

Asked if Cambodia would discuss future membership of ASEAN at the talks, he said, "not yet."

"We have to listen closely to what they say, and they will listen to what we would like to do and what will be our priorities and needs in the region," Prince Sirivut said.

The United Nations is due to complete the withdrawal of its 20,000 peacekeepers by November, according to a revised timetable announced in New York on Monday.

ASEAN presently groups Brunei, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore and Thailand. Cambodia has previously expressed its wish to join. Vietnam and Laos have been invited to the conference as observers, Prince Sirivut said.

Receives Malaysian Envoy 20 Jul

BK2107024293 Phnom Penh National Voice of Cambodia Radio Network in Cambodian 1300 GMT 20 Jul 93

[Text] Prince Norodom Sirivut, minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, cordially received His Excellency [H.E.] Deva Mohamed Ridzam, special representative of Malaysia to Cambodia, at the Foreign Ministry on the morning of 20 July. On behalf of the Malaysian Government, H.E. Deva Mohamed Ridzam thanked the Provisional National Government of Cambodia [PNGC] deeply for having allowed him to safely and successfully carry out his mission in the country. He also warmly complimented the prince on his appointment as the minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation.

The Malaysian special envoy underlined that the bilateral relations and cooperation between Cambodia and Malaysia should be further strengthened and improved. He also welcomed the setting up of the PNGC and the national reconciliation process in Cambodia. The Malaysian envoy said this is the first time Malaysia has provided $1 million ringgit [Malaysian currency] or $400,000 in financial aid for the reconstruction of Cambodia. He pointed out that he will always welcome the PNGC foreign minister's participation as a guest at the annual ASEAN foreign ministers' meeting.

Prince Norodom Sirivut welcomed the Malaysian envoy and thanked him, the Malaysian Government, and the people profoundly for their valuable contribution to rebuilding, restoring, and assisting Cambodia, which has suffered from more than two decades of war, in achieving national reconciliation conducive to the establishment of the PNGC. The prince said he hoped Malaysia will continue to assist Cambodia and the Cambodian people in various sectors, such as in the economic and political fields.

Public Urged To Report Banditry, Robbery

BK2007021893 Phnom Penh National Voice of Cambodia Radio Network in Cambodian 1300 GMT 19 Jul 93

["Communique by Co-ministers of the Interior and National Security;" dated 17 July—read by announcer]

[Text] People and victims of robbery, banditry, and those under death threats by armed gangs or perpetrators nationwide are urged to complain to local competent institutions in their respective provinces and cities. In particular, those in Phnom Penh are asked to complain to local competent institutions and the Interior and National Security Ministry's Economic Crimes Department. This is to enable the authorities to launch investigations to effectively settle their cases on a timely basis.

[Dated] Phnom Penh, 17 July
[Signed] Deputy Minister General Sin Sen for the coministers of the Ministry of Interior and National Security

Indonesia

Daily Urges Conglomeration of State Enterprises

BK1807150193 Jakarta SUARA PEMBARUAN in Indonesian 7 Jul 93 p 2

[Editorial: "State-Owned Enterprises To Group Under Conglomerates"]

[Text] It is a fact that over the past several years, private companies engaged in several kinds of businesses have been grouped together under single business entities. Private companies are encouraged to foster work ethics of greater efficiency and productivity. In this way, all private companies that are grouped under a conglomerate will be able to obtain bigger profits.

Having such management operations in mind, Rahardi Ramelan, vice chairman of the National Development Planning Board, on Monday (7 July 1993) proposed that it would be better for state-owned enterprises [SOE's] to group under conglomerates. According to Ramelan, this is a way to enable the state enterprises to compete with private sector companies in economic development. In other words, conglomerates comprising SOE's are set up with the aim of encouraging competition with private companies in order to support economic growth.

When work performance is more efficient and productive, only then will it be possible to realize the idea of setting up state-owned conglomerates. In this way, indirectly, the formation of state-owned conglomerates may also be a means of preventing social jealousy from worsening among those in the industrial sector.

It is fortunate that the government, based on regulations, holds the authority to control the conglomerates as stated by President Suharto on 27 June 93. Once the conglomerates are allowed to grow and expand, then there is a possibility that other citizens' rights to equal business opportunities in industry will lessen every year. This possibility could be prevented if the target of setting up state-owned conglomerates is achieved. Finally, with a more efficient and productive work ethic, the opportunity is then opened to the state-owned conglomerates to operate in businesses that are related to the livelihood of the common people which was originally meant for private companies only.

The state-owned conglomerates will have a better chance of taking part in development projects when the government adopts a strategy to support them. For that purpose, the government can adopt a strategy that underlines the types of businesses that are limited to private companies. It is felt that this policy is in line with the announcement by the head of state that the government continues to control private companies.

The government's measure to limit the variety of businesses to be operated by private companies is in accordance with the principle of the 1945 Constitution. Section 33, Sentence (2) of the 1945 Constitution says: "The development of large projects should be carried out by the government. However, with the limited variety of businesses within the private sector, projects that are related to the welfare of the people will be controlled by the government." This is because, in reality, the state-owned conglomerates are truly state-owned.

However, objectives can still be achieved when the state-owned conglomerates are managed by professional people. One cannot imagine that the idea of forming state-owned conglomerates could be realized without these professional managers. It is an undeniable fact that currently, state-owned trading firms are being managed by state officials from the departments that patronize the firms concerned. Some people guess that this is the reason for the slow development of the SOE's.

In view of this, the formation of state-owned conglomerates should be accompanied by the expansion of a balanced industrial structure so that it will be possible to compete with their counterparts in other countries, likewise proposed by the vice chairman of the National Development Planning Board. Under the new industrial development structure, a SOE should limit state officials to key positions only. It should be noted that these officials are quite highly professional. However, if possible, it would be better to have nonstate officials holding key positions.

Editorial Comments on Labor Problems, Union Weakness

BK1607155393 Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 26 Jun 93 p 4

[Editorial: "Workers Complaints to Parliament and The Indonesia Workers Union's Weakness"]

[Text] We read daily in the mass media of PT IPC Sarinah Jaya workers' increasing claims, protests and complaints. Their problems have yet to be solved. One of the claims by the workers was that the All-Indonesian Workers Union, SPSI, should appoint a representative who could represent them in their working place.

The claims case forwarded by the PT IPC Sarinah Jaya workers is one of the numerous complaints made by industrial or factory workers. Numerous cases of protests by workers were reported everywhere in the country during the last two to three years. Their complaints were mostly urging the government to decide upon a minimum-wage scale which should be absorbed by their respective industries. And in combination with such a call, the workers also called for the appointment of a union representative in their respective industries. The workers' claims which occurred in Tangerang and Bekasi districts this year indicated that continuous efforts were being made by them to stake a claim on their rights and the need to improve their conditions. Many of these claims were considered as "insignificant" and were not reported by the mass media.

In line with the Pancasila concept concerning industrial relations, representatives from the Manpower Department, the SPSI and the business circles hold constant discussions concerning workers issues—in a tripartite manner. The objective in holding tripartite discussions is to further increase production (and also distribution) and in ensuring that economic activities run smoothly. If misunderstandings arise, then they are solved through discussions and in a cooperative manner. Such an action has been absorbed through an annual agreement between the workers and the management known as the Cooperation Agreement or PKB. This an annual agreement is made through the auspices of the SPSI representative in the industry. In fact, such an endeavor is not specifically practised in Indonesia only but likewise, the Collective Labor Agreement [preceding three words in English], CLA, exists everywhere else.

We have established mechanisms known as the P4D and P4P, for the solving of labor disputes, such as solving a misunderstanding over the expulsion of a worker. The two mechanisms are the Provincial Committee on Settlement of Labor Disputes, or P4D, and the Central Committee on Settlement of Labor Disputes or P4P. And, if no final decision could be achieved concerning a case, then the case would be taken to court for final judgment.

Taking into account the increasing claims, protests and complaints by workers, we were able to note certain points. First, Pancasila concept of industrial relations, the P4D and the P4P have yet to live up to our expectations.

Parliamentary Commission V's current data showed that numerous labor disputes were settled by P4D and P4P. But, simultaneously, the increasing number of complaints forwarded by workers to the parliament also indicate that there are still cases which have yet to be settled through the Pancasila industrial relations mechanism and the P4D and P4P mechanisms.

Second, there are thousands of SPSI representatives in various industries and the existence of cooperation agreements between the SPSI representatives and the management. However, numerous workers in various industries have yet to appoint their respective representatives from SPSI. If they are not represented, then the Cooperation Agreement or PKB could not be initiated in the nonrepresented industries.

We obtain feedback from time to time and such feedback indicates that there were parties which stated that Indonesian workers do not fully understand the function of SPSI and the method to lay claim on their rights (for example, how to stage legitimate protests). On the other hand, we also know that there are certain industries which made efforts to prevent their workers from being represented by SPSI and made the life and career more miserable for those workers who become union representatives—even more miserable for those representatives in management.

Third, there have been numerous complaints forwarded to the parliament concerning SPSI's weakness as an organization of national interest which is supposed to advocate and support the aspirations of the workers. Since the spread of the labor issues and the increasing number of protests, we have not heard of SPSI playing its role in solving those cases.

Previously, we heard arguments that in advocating the workers' problems, SPSI had conducted itself with a low profile [preceding two words in English]. As such, due to the numerous complaints which the workers presented to the parliament, their action indicated that they no longer "appreciate" SPSI's role. If we conduct an in-depth study, the workers' evaluation of SPSI's role is connected with its credibility of advocating their interests.

However, we do not always blame SPSI. While the role of the business sector is becoming increasingly strong and more established in stabilizing Indonesia's economic stance, organizations advocating workers interests such as SPSI, the farmers interests as undertaken by (HKTI) [The Farmers Organization of Indonesia] and that of the fishing community (HNSI) [The Indonesian Fishermen's Organization] are all weak. Why is it so? In short, the reason could be due to the "situation".

Fourth, we also note the case concerning Marsinah, a worker in East Java who was reported lost but was later found dead. The East Java police authorities disclosed that her death was not due to natural causes. We questioned such an incident because prior to her death, the young woman and her colleagues from the same factory staged a protest. Moreover, she was one of the representatives from the other groups of workers who met and held discussions with the management.

While waiting for the outcome of the police investigations, there were opinions which indicated that Marsinah's death should not be linked to the protest. However, there was a possibility that her death was, in no way, connected with her participation in the protest. It would prove horrific if her death was the cause of her involvement in the protest.

We are entering "new chapters" in connection with the workers claims. The authorities had taken action against errant workers for causing disruption of public order and destruction during the protests. They were detained and interrogated.

If Marsinah's death was connected with her participation in the protest, then we are currently facing what the United States underwent in the 1920s—which was then known as the roaring twenties [preceding three words in English].

What are we actually facing in connection with workers problems? An economist said that in coordination with economic development and progress during the past 25 years, we are also facing a multitude of problems. Among other things, there are the problems of the country's macroeconomic situation, financial stability, balance of payments, foreign debts, investments, exports and so on. But the problems of workers also form a major portion of the multitude of problems from year to year. The solution to the workers problems should not be achieved through acts of violence, suppression or intimidation. Therefore, such problems should be expeditiously solved in a humanitarian manner.

As such, the workers problems need to be solved in a careful and wise manner—similar to the careful and wise decisions taken in solving the country's macroeconomic issues.

Conglomerates Warned About Greed, Selfishness

BK2007075893 Hong Kong AFP in English 0523 GMT 20 Jul 93

[Text] JAKARTA, July 20 (AFP)—Retired lieutenant general Harsudiono Hartas, a member of the Supreme Advisory Council, has warned the country's business conglomerates about becoming too greedy and selfish, a daily newspaper reported Tuesday.

"If the conglomerate become greedy, selfish and only profit-oriented, they will create a difficult situation for themselves and for others," former head of the influential armed forces' socio-political department Hartas told the Indonesian Observer.

Hartas said that in the philosophy of the Javanese, Indonesia's ethnic majority of which he is part, a clear division existed in society between business people, intellectuals, bureaucrats and the military. However, should the business community become "a pressure group for the ruling class ... conflict arises and this situation is in no way beneficial to the conglomerates," warned Hartas, who is widely believed to still command high respect among the military top ranks.

Critics here have said that Indonesia's big businesses, many already enjoying state patronage, can now count on the government to protect them against critics of their growing strength. In debates conducted in parliament and the national press, they said the conglomerates have gone out of control in recent years under the government's more liberal economic policies.

Suharto stepped in last month to allay fears on the growing strength of the conglomerates, saying they were needed to develop the country's economy as the government's financial capabilities were limited, but that Jakarta remained in control through the various rules and regulations. Most conglomerates are controlled by the ethnic Chinese, a minority accounting for some three percent of Indonesia's 185 million population, but some indigenous companies have emerged in recent years, including those held by several offspring and close kin of Suharto.

A series of deregulatory measures launched in the 1980s have benefit big businesses because they have easier access to cheap funds to finance their growth, while small firms have been disadvantaged in the face of fiercer competition, critics said.

Hartas said business conglomerates needed to foster a sense of nationalism as well as work to create jobs for the people.

Activists Demand Workers' Freedom of Association

BK1707055093 Jakarta THE JAKARTA POST in English 9 Jul 93 p 2

[Text] Jakarta (JP)—Labor activists have written to the military and the government demanding that they guarantee freedom of association especially for workers.

The activists met on Wednesday at the office of the Indonesian Legal Aid Foundation (YLBHI) to sign a petition deploring military involvement in recent labor disputes and urging the government to uphold the labor laws.

The letter was sent to Armed Forces Commander General Feisal Tanjung, Minister of Manpower Abdul Latif and Minister of Home Affairs Yogie S. Memet.

The activists expressed their solidarity with fellow workers detained arbitrarily by the authorities.

David Vela of the Indonesian Prosperity Labor Union (SBSI), an independent union that has not been recognized by the government said arbitrary actions by officials against worker dissidents showed that the government does not have the political will yet to guarantee freedom of association for workers.

"We have evidence indicating that the government is not committed to improving protection for workers," said David, who chaired the meeting.

As examples, he cited the recent detention of two SBSI executives by the military authorities in Medan, North Sumatera, and the failure of police to uncover the murder of labor activist Marsinah in East Java.

SBSI has filed a lawsuit against the military in a court in Medan for the wrongful arrest of its two members, he said.

Amosi Telaumbanua and Soniman Lafao were arrested after they established an SBSI base at a company in the North Sumatera city last month. They were released last week without being charged .

H.C.J. Princen, a human rights lawyer who heads the Free Trade Union (SBM) said copies of the petition would be sent to the International Labor Organization (ILO) and the American Federation of Labor-Congress of Industrial Organizations (AFL-CIO) to solicit their support for the workers' struggle in Indonesia.

He hoped that ILO, AFL-CIO and other foreign labor unions would help fight for protection for workers in the country.

SBM and SBSI are challenging the government's policy that recognizes only the All Indonesian Workers Association (SPSI) as the sole representative organization for workers in the country. The government neither bars the two independent unions nor recognize their existence.

Also present at the meeting were Teten Masduki of the Indonesian Legal Aid Foundation and several officials of SBSI branches in West and Central Java.

East Timorese Integration Talks Approved

BK2007155293 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 1500 GMT 20 Jul 93

[Text] Following his meeting with President Suharto in Jakarta today, Lopez da Cruz, Indonesia's roving ambassador who is a native of East Timor, told newsmen that the president has approved a plan by East Timorese figures to hold an informal discussion on the integration issue. These figures are made up of those who are opposed to and support the integration of East Timor into Indonesia. Most of them are now living in third countries.

Da Cruz said that the wish by several East Timorese figures now living in Portugal to hold a dialogue with other East Timorese who are pro-integration is a good move. The informal meeting will discuss input, such as education, to be given to East Timorese living abroad in connection with development progress in Indonesia's 27th province. He said with this, it is hoped that the anti- integration group will show a change of attitude and realize that the integration of East Timor into Indonesia is the best thing for the East Timorese people.

Laos

Joint MIA Search Begins in Xieng Khouang Province

BK2107043693 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0000 GMT 21 Jul 93

[Text] Yesterday, more than 30 American technicians, in collaboration with Lao technicians from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of National Defense, left Vientiane for Xieng Khouang Province to jointly search for the remains of Americans missing in action during war.

The joint search will last for one month. Digging will be carried out at two plane crash sites and surveys will be conducted in about 29 areas in the province.

This search operation in Xiang Khouang Province is the second of its kind since 1992. In the first six months of this year, a team of Lao-American technicians carried out search operations at plane crash sites in four central and southern provinces, namely Attopeu, Sekong, Savannakhet, and Khammouane. The operations included diggings and surveys in 58 areas.

Meeting on Refugee Repatriation Held in Savannakhet

BK2007090793 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0000 GMT 20 Jul 93

[Text] The sixth tripartite meeting between the delegations of Laos, Thailand, and the United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Refugees [UNHCR], which was held in central Savannakhet Province, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, on 15 and 16 July, concluded with considerable success.

Leading the Lao delegation at the meeting was Souban Salitthilat, deputy foreign affairs minister, while the Thai team was headed by General Charan Kunlawanit, secretary general of Thailand's National Security Council, and the UNHCR was represented by [name indistinct], acting Asia-Pacific regional director of the Geneva-based UNHCR.

The meeting of the delegations reaffirmed their decision to continue implementing the policy to provide humanitarian assistance to Lao refugees. The policy focuses on organizing safe repatriation of Lao refugees in conformity with the plans mapped out in the previous meetings.

The meeting noted that the repatriation of Lao refugees worked out well in the past year. In 1992, a total of 3,036 Lao refugees returned to their country and 2,150 refugees have been sent home this year. The repatriation program was sponsored by the UNHCR and in the process it considerably met the basic needs of the refugees and others concerned.

The relocation and settlement of Lao returnees was appropriately carried out despite certain obstacles, especially the socioeconomic structure. The Lao side proposed to the meeting its immediate future and long-term plans to receive Lao refugees. The Lao Government will continue to find areas in various provinces in Laos which are secure and have potential for building economic and social bases for Lao refugees who return in groups. To implement such plans, Laos requests various international organizations, including the UNHCR, and countries to consider cooperation and assistance to Laos in a practical way suitable to their respective authority, responsibility, and financial capability.

Moreover, the Lao side also reaffirmed that it will try to follow the previously agreed plans to receive Lao refugees. This is after receiving from the UNHCR the list and personal background of Lao refugees who want to voluntarily return home, and the government will try its best to accept them.

At the meeting, the Thai delegation emphasized plans to close down Lao refugee camps in Thailand mainly for two reasons. First is to support the project for repatriation of Lao refugees. Second is to eliminate Laos' fear that groups who are against the Lao Government uses refugee camps as shelters. Thailand closed down Ban Vinai camp in 1992 and plans to close down Chiang Kham camp in 1993. Nevertheless, Ban Na Pho camp will still be used for some time as a center for repatriates waiting to go home.

The UNHCR expressed its willingness to render cooperation to the Lao and Thai Governments in mobilizing funds for use in the transfer and settlement of Lao repatriates. It also pledged to help build and develop economic and social bases in the relocation areas that the Lao Government sets for returnees. Furthermore, the UNHCR also promised to urge various countries and international organizations to provide the Lao Government with sufficient funds and financial support in order to make Laos' repatriation program a success.

Thailand

Army Commander Views Differences With U.S. on Khmer Rouge

BK2107033593 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 21 Jul 93 p 9

[Text] Army Commander-in-Chief Wimon Wongwanit said the United States and Thailand have a different point of view concerning political developments in Cambodia and reiterated the Army's stance that reconciliation in that country would be impossible if the Khmer Rouge are excluded from the new coalition government.

Commenting on the US statement that the inclusion of the Khmer Rouge in the new coalition government might deprive that country of its chance of getting economic assistance from Washington Gen Wimon admitted that the two countries had different viewpoints on the issue.

He said a difference in opinion is normal and urged the press not to sensationalise the issue as it might cause a misunderstanding. He plans to visit the US next month.

"We base our national stance on the Paris agreement which states clearly that reconciliation in Cambodia could be possible only when all Khmer factions are included in the coalition government. Peace could return to that country only when all factions participate in the peace process," he explained.

He urged the world community to let the Cambodian people settle their own problems. "I am confident that they can unite and help rebuild the country."

Gen Wimon said he was hopeful that once peace returns to Cambodia it would also help maintain peace along the Thai-Cambodian border.

"Peace in Cambodia means peace along our common border," said the commander, who left early this morning on an official four-day trip to Russia.

Gen Wimon said the trip was aimed at strengthening and creating mutual understanding between the two countries.

He said during his meeting with Russian senior army officers he would also visit a Russian special forces unit and inspect demonstrations of Russian weapons and engineering equipment.

Trade Official Comments on Upcoming Talks With U.S.

BK2007023093 Bangkok THE NATION in English 20 Jul 93 pp B1, B3

[Text] THAILAND will raise copyright protection and the Treaty of Amity with the United States during the upcoming bilateral trade talks scheduled for July 26-28 in Washington DC, a Government House source said yesterday.

The source said that a meeting of high-ranking officials, held to prepare for the bilateral trade negotiations and chaired by Permanent Secretary of Commerce Phatchara Itsarasena, agreed to raise the two issues of copyright and the Treaty of Amity as priority topics.

Cabinet has already agreed to Deputy Prime Minister Suphachai Phanitchaphak leading the negotiating team in talks with the US Trade Representative Mickey Kantor, prior to the July 31 deadline on copyright protection.

Thailand has been placed on the US Priority Foreign Country (PFC) watchlist for three consecutive years. America gave Thailand another three-months, on April 30, to amend its laws and provide better intellectual property rights protection and to tighten up pharmaceutical patents.

On July 31, the US Trade Representative will announce whether it will impose sanctions on Thailand under Section 301 of the US Trade Act.

In the copyright area, the government wants the United States to realise that it is eager to provide copyright protection based on the Berne Convention and the Gatt TRIPS (Trade Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights) agreements, the source said.

In the case of the Treaty of Amity, Thailand wants America to consider whether it gives the same treatment to Thai investors who wish to invest in the United States as Americans currently get in the Kingdom.

"We would like to ask the US whether they have done everything according to what is written in the Treaty of Amity," the source said.

Under the Treaty of Amity agreed by the United States and Thailand, investors in both countries will get "national treatment" investment access in the respective countries, a status which Thailand claims it has not received.

"For example, Thai businessmen are denied access to invest in the insurance business in four US states including Kansas and Arkansas," the source claimed.

Under certain state laws, foreigners are prohibited from investing in the insurance business until they are given permission from central bodies in New York, the source said.

Thailand, on the contrary, gives free access to US insurance companies.

"We regard this practice as unfair to us.

It needs to be resolved," the source said.

Commerce Minister on 'Urgency' of Copyright Issue

BK2007113993 Bangkok SIAM RAT in Thai 20 Jul 93 p 16

[Text] Commerce Minister Uthai Phimchaichon said that the House of Representatives will be able to work on the amendment to the Copyrights Act within the next two weeks before the close of the current session, noting that there is still enough time to include the issue on the agenda of the current session because members of the house realize the urgency of this issue. However, if the house rejects the proposed amendment, the United States should understand the government's position in dealing with the house and be aware that the government has done its best in this regard. Hopefully, Thailand will be spared from U.S. trade retaliation.

Touching on the cabinet's ruling that computer software is regarded as literature material which is entitled to copyright protection, Uthai said that everything has both pros and cons. However, we must admit that Thailand and the United States look at the issue of copyright protection from different angles. The Thai people pay little attention to this issue.

Cabinet Approves Software Protection Bill

BK2107034793 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 21 Jul 93 p 15

[Text] The Cabinet yesterday gave its final approval to the bill to amend copyright laws to ensure computer software is specifically protected.

Ministers passed the bill last week, but it was returned from the Juridicial Council, the Government's legal advisers, with some minor proposed changes.

One issue that needed clarification was whether "derivative" software, particularly foreign software converted for Thai use, would come under the copyright of the original software.

Ministers chose wording to make clear that Thai versions would come under the original copyright.

The bill will now be submitted to Government party whips before submission to Parliament, probably within the current session which has only two meetings remaining.

Under a tentative agreement reached with the United States in early May, the Government is committed to submitting the bill within this session. US Trade Representative Mickey Kantor is due to announce by the end of this month whether his government will impose sanctions, keep Thailand on the "Priority Foreign Country" watchlist, or remove Thailand from the list.

His decision will be based on the effectiveness of the crackdown on audio and video tape piracy and clarification of the way pharmaceutical patent law is administered, as well as on the copyright bill.

Defense Minister: Military Strength Review Needed

BK2107025393 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 21 Jul 93 p 1

[Text] Thailand will need to review its military strength in the wake of neighbouring countries' move to increase military spending and acquire modern armaments, Defence Minister Wicyit Sukmak said yesterday.

Gen [General] Wichit was responding to reporters' questions on increased military spending by Malaysia and China. This increase was worth giving thought to, he said.

"We have to consider our armed forces' strength and capacity."

He said the Defence Ministry has been strengthening the military for security roles to protect national resources within its territorial waters.

"The Government is generous on this. The improvement of the armed forces is going as planned and the Government has never slashed any proposed military spending.

"We are confident of our capacity to carry out our national security mission, particularly that in our territorial waters," Gen Wichit said He said Army chief Wimon Wongwanit, who leaves for Moscow today, has been assigned to study Russian military hardware and weaponry systems.

"There may be some of quality that can be used in our armed forces and can be bought through our available budget," Gen Wichit said.

Air Force Commander on Development of Combat Force

BK1907074793 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in Thai 0530 GMT 19 Jul 93

[Text] Speaking to reporters about the performance of the air force since the beginning of this year, Air Force Commander Air Chief Marshal Kan Phimanthip said:

[Begin recording] [Kan] Our routine and major task is dealing with national defense and supporting aviation work. Others include rain-making operations and activities pertaining to royally-initiated development programs as well as supporting the government. These are our routine work.

[Unidentified reporter] What has the Air Force done in developing its combat capabilities?

[Kan] We have consistently developed our combat force because we know well that if we stop, we will be backward. For example, we have upgraded our F-5 jet fighters. In the past, our F-5 fighters had very little chance of returning home safely if they were sent to combat outside the country because they were not well-equipped. We have now installed various equipment and modern weapons on them so that they will be enable to carry out missions abroad as assigned by the government in the defense of our national interests. We have done a good job so far. [end recording]

Official: Quick Action Needed on PRC Transport Links

BK2107031593 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 21 Jul 93 p 8

[Text] Thailand cannot wait any longer to develop an "economic quadrangle" to improve transport links with China because a major road has reopened between China and Vietnam, according to Deputy Transport and Communications Minister Chawat Phuachuai.

Mr Chawat has returned from an official visit to Yunnan where he signed air, road and waterway transport agreements.

Yunnan recently reopened a bridge across the Red River to allow its exports to be carried to Haiphong Port near Hanoi, he said yesterday.

Although Yunnan authorities said Haiphong now has fewer facilities than Thailand's Laem Chabang commercial port, the Vietnamese port requires only four or five years' development to become highly competitive while the "economic quadrangle" project of China Laos, Burma and Thailand has yet to make a firm start, Mr Chawat said.

He said Yunnan authorities said they preferred Laem Chabang to handle their exports because transport along the Mekong River to Thailand would cost less than the route through Vietnam. Yunnan authorities had been empowered by the central government in Peking to settle any agreement to use the Mekong River for this purpose.

China and Laos have also signed an agreement to use the Mekong to carry goods between Yunnan and Vientiane.

Yunnan had given an assurance of its readiness to deliver cargo to Chiang Saen and Chiang Khong districts in Chiang Rai if ports could be built there, Mr Chawat said.

The Harbour Department would be told to build ports there as well as in Chiang Khan District of Loei Province and in a district of Nong Khai Province across from Vientiane, which were considered potential sites for cargo ports he said. Cabinet approval would be sought for the new ports.

Nine rapids on the Mekong would be destroyed to enable the river to be used for transport all year round. Yunnan authorities had proposed that Thailand should share responsibility for the cost of blasting the rapids which would total about US$3.5 million.

The Thai Government should approve the proposal and allocate enough funds for this work which would be very worthwhile in promoting Sino-Thai water transport, he said.

The Government would have to approve the procurement of sufficient carriages for railway delivery of cargo between the North and Northeast and Laem Chabang port, he said.

The Yunnan authorities proposed that Thailand should agree to a Sino-Thai joint venture to build a 230-kilometre-long highway from Mae Sai District of Chiang Rai to Kengtung in Burma and Qing Hong in China, and another 248-kilometre-long route from Chiang Kong in Chiang Mai to Luang Namtha in Laos and to Muang Sing, the Laotian area bordering China.

The Asian Development Bank is considering whether to lend funds for two-lane highways to Burma and Laos. If the loan proceeds, the Thai and Chinese governments should guarantee the loan, Mr Chawat said.

The two projects have yet to be approved by the Burmese and Laotian central governments.

Yunnan has proposed flights from Qing Hong, where people speak a Thai dialect, to four Thai provinces: Chiang Rai, Chiang Mai, Nan and Udon Thani.

Mr Chawat said he proposed two further weekly flights, an increase from five to seven, to serve the Kunming-Chiang Mai and Kunming-Bangkok routes.

Yunnan had agreed to a Laotian proposal that Vientiane host the next meeting to discuss the "quadrangle" in September. Earlier, the Chinese had proposed holding the meeting in Kunming, the Yunnan capital, Mr Chawat said.

He suggested that Transport and Communications Deputy Minister Sawai Phatthano and Prime Minister Chuan Likphai should discuss Thailand's willingness to improve transport links when the two men visit Kunming and Peking respectively next month.

Rice Export Drop Attributed to PRC, SRV Competition

BK2107045993 Bangkok THE NATION in English 21 Jul 93 p B12

[Text] Thailand exported 500,000 tonnes of rice less in the first six months of this year than it did in the same period last year, Director-General of the Foreign Trade Department Charae Chutharatkun said yesterday.

Charae told reporters that during the past six months, the private sector exported 800,000 tonnes of rice less than they did in the same period last year. Government rice exports, however, increased by 300,000 tonnes.

According to Capital Rice co's export figures, Thailand exported 2,151,796.51 tonnes of rice from January through June this year, down from 2,697,989.98 tonnes in the first six months of last year.

The country expects to export at least 4.6 million tonnes of rice by the year end, down from 4,779,871.46 tonnes last year.

The decline stems mostly from intense competition with Vietnam and China in the low-quality rice category, Charae said.

Vietnam and China can sell low-quality rice at a very cheap price because of low production costs, Charae said.

As a result, private rice exporters in Thailand cannot export low-quality rice because their prices are not competitive. The Thai government has to sell the low-quality rice (at a loss) on a government-by-government basis instead.

"That's why the govemment exported more rice than the private sector in the past period," according to Charae.

Charae pointed out that premium Thai rice fetches very good prices in the foreign market, up to Bt [Baht] 5,000 per tonne, compared to prices for low-quality rice of Bt2,400-2,600 per tonne.

Charae added that the high price of premium Thai rice in the foreign market helps push up its local price as well.

As Thailand has no current rivals in the premium rice category, and the producers enjoy high prices in both the domestic and international markets "farmers and exporters should grow and export Jasmine fragrant rice, the premium Thai rice," Charae urged.

Charae also predicted that prices for exported rice in the latter half of this year will remain the same.

He believes that Thailand will manage to reach the target for rice exports previously set at 4.6 million tonnes, of which 3.6 million tonnes will be exported by the private sector and the rest by the government.

To achieve the target during the next six months, Charae said that the eight-member Rice Export Acceleration Committee will have to set a policy to pursue sales.

"The export policy will be in line with domestic production and the country's rice stock," he said.

Kazakhstan President To Visit 20-22 Jul

BK1807040693 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 18 Jul 93 p 2

[Text] KAZAKHSTAN'S President, Nursultan Nazarbayev, will pay a three-day official visit to Thailand from July 20-22 at the invitation of Prime Minister Chuan Likphai.

Mr. Nazarbayev will discuss bilateral relations with special emphasis on economic cooperation as well as regional and international issues.

Chuan Hosts Banquet for Nazarbayev

BK2107042793 Bangkok THE NATION in English 21 Jul 93 p A5

[Text] Prime Minister Chuan Likphai said last night that there is great potential for developing trade between Thailand and oil-rich Kazakhstan in Central Asia.

"Your visit should be the catalyst for the realization of such a potential," Chuan said at a welcoming banquet in honour of President Nursultan Abishevitch Nazarbayev.

Nazarbayev is on a four-day visit to Thailand. He is the first CIS leader to travel to this country.

Thailand established diplomatic relations with Kazakhstan a year ago when the former Soviet republic became an independent state as part of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS).

Nazarbayev has been applauded for his efforts to develop oil-rich Kazakhstan by inviting the world's major oil companies to invest there.

He is scheduled to hold talks with Chuan today before attending an audience with HM [His Majesty] the King. Both countries are planning to sign an agreement to set up a joint commission on bilateral relations.

During his visit, Nazarbayev will visit the Stock Exchange of Thailand as well as the headquarters of the country's major agro- industrial firm, Charoen Phokphan, and industrial estates, according to the Thai officials.

Chuan said Thailand and Kazakhstan have "complementary" economies.

The prime minister mentioned the possibility of joint cooperation in developing and exploring oil and gas resources, adding that Thai exports to Kazakhstan could include rice, sugar, rubber and canned fruit.

Cabinet Approves Rules for Megaproject Coordination

BK2107044193 Bangkok THE NATION in English 21 Jul 93 p B1

[Text] The Cabinet has approved a proposal for regulations to supervize mega-transport facilities in an effort to create a new framework to solve the lack of cooperation and inefficient performance of the agencies concerned.

Sudarat Keyuraphan, government spokesperson, said yesterday that the Cabinet agreed with the Traffic Management Control Committee's plan to issue the framework as Prime Minister's Office regulations.

The regulation will emphasis mass transit systems rather than expressways because they have a greater capacity to solve traffic congestion.

The government should urgently accelerate the expansion of the mass transit schemes to serve Bangkok suburbs, and the mass transit projects should be linked as a single network and connected to roads or any public transportation system and facilities.

The investment in mega projects should be based on optimum advantages, economically and socially, and the decisions to allow the private sector to become involved either individually or in a joint venture should take into account the following considerations:

—Efficient management, operation and service provisions between the government and the private sector;
—The government's financial status;
—Justified economic and social retutns for the country;
—Financial resources
—Service fee collecting system and fee increases;
—No conflict with private and public venture laws.

In addition, a central body should be set up to oversee, control, accelerate and help all mega-projects for coordination.

The committee further recommended that mega projects should be co-ordinated right at the beginning when they are at the design stage to prevent conflicts and overlapping.

A plan to facilitate the construction of the projects should be initiated to avoid impacts on traffic. In addition, agencies concerned should carry out public relations activities to create a mutual understanding particularly for people who might be directly affected by the projects such as those in areas to be expropriated.

The Cabinet has also instructed the Office of the Commission for the Management of Road Traffic to establish the details, based on the policies and strategies proposed by the Traffic Management Control Committee, for the Cabinet's consideration.

The Anan administration had already established a committee to co-ordinate the mega-project and to set a framework to solve the traffic woes and conflicts of mass transit projects and expressways.

Chuan Urged To Deal With SAP, Leader Montri

BK2107043393 Bangkok THE NATION in English 21 Jul 93 p A6

[Editorial: "Chuan Must Show Montri Who Is the Real Boss"]

[Text] Prime Minister Chuan Likphai has displayed inexplicable tolerance towards the arrogance of Social Action Party [SAP] leader Montri Phongphanit who takes pleasure in bullying the government with provocative and cynical remarks. By doing so, the SAP boss has portrayed the premier as a man who blinked in an eyeball-to-eyeball confrontation.

By ignoring Montri's periodic ill humour and bluff, Chuan may not know that it is the public which has lost patience. The squabble between the Democrat Party and the SAP has been going on for too long, distracting the government's attention from the problems at hand.

Montri badly wants his assets back from the government and this means he will spare no effort in trying to get them. He does not have much to lose anyway. Even if it will take sometime before he eventually lays his hands on the confiscated millions of baht worth of assets, the SAP leader simultaneously waits and kills time by ruining the credibility of Chuan's leadership and public confidence in him.

Montri is doing exactly what his expelled party member, Phiyanat Watcharaphon, had done to rock the coalition administration. The SAP leader is showing the public that he is also a master of double standards in addition to a newly-acquired status as a questionable partner in government.

The opposition parties are silently relishing Montri's excellent role as a thorn in the side of the coalition government. Their leaders share Montri's urgent need—they badly want their money, earlier paid to them through unexplained gift cheques, back from the government.

The opposition leaders had tried during the past 10 months to undermine the government's stability, but in vain. They must be gleefully watching Montri doing them a favour with devastating effect. This has been achieved in just less than a month.

Chuan cannot regain the dwindling public confidence in him if he appears indecisive, as he has been perceived to be, after assuming the premiership. He should have known by now that Montri was not afraid of the whip he cracked. The public shares the opinion that the problem of the political enfant terrible must be dealt with swiftly.

Montri has repeated his bluff. July 22 would be his D-Day, he boasted, without giving specifics. There were some hints though. He would quit the coalition in January next year if the government failed to solve the problem of sagging paddy prices. Why wait six months when he knows fully well that he was asking for something more than impossible? The SAP leader has not come up with measures on how he would deal with the same seasonal problem if he were in the same position.

Chuan must never give Montri that luxury of time which means more opportunities for the estranged partner to cause more friction within the coalition. If that is the case, Montri can divert Chuan's attention away from pressing problems and the national agenda which the premier claims to have. Chuan must suppress such insolence by showing who is the real boss.

There has always been a lingering doubt though. Does the premier have enough fortitude to do that?

Chuan has two plausible options at the moment. He can either reshuffle the Cabinet by sacking the SAP straightaway or dissolve the House of Representatives. The government's image has not improved one bit by retaining the SAP in the pack. By dumping the scandal-tainted party, the premier will appear with a stronger hand to wrestle with issues affecting public interest.

More importantly, Chuan can restore public confidence in his leadership.

By the same token, his continuing appearance of weakness and indecisiveness can trigger off a misleading perception on the competence of civilian leadership in our fragile transitional democracy.

Central Bank Lowers Growth Forecast

BK2007024893 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 20 Jul 93 p 24

[Text] THE Bank of Thailand has completed its review of the country's economic situation this year with a projected growth rate no lower than last year's. But it will be slightly lower than the original projection of 7.8 percent.

Bank of Thailand Governor Wichit Suphinit said yesterday that despite certain factors affecting the economy such as lower exports, some factors were still performing well such as the high expansion of capital goods and raw material imports. Economic growth this year would not be lower than last year's rate of 7.4 percent.

An informed source in the central bank said the review by the central bank showed that the economic growth rate this year would be about 0.2-0.3 percentage points lower than the original projection of 7.8 percent. In other words, the growth rate this year would be in the range of 7.5-7.6 percent.

The source said the reviewed growth rate was still favourable, particularly when compared with speculation that the growth rate this year would be about one percentage point lower than the projection.

The key driver of the economy this year is domestic consumption and also investment, particularly in housing estates.

The economy would improve if many major infrastructure projects got under way, the source said.

Tourism also improved.

"Although the occupancy rates are not so high, it is because there are many new hotels in operations".

The source also noted that only certain sectors of exports experienced lower volumes such as textiles and farm products, "but the exports of industrial goods increased by more than 20 percent".

Although exports might be affected by US trade sanctions under the Section 301, such retaliation, in the worst case has been anticipated.

The source said the Bank of Thailand was not disappointed with the lower-than-projected growth rate.

"The figure of the growth rate in the range of 7-8 percent is still favourable. The Bank of Thailand does not want to see the growth rate register double digits because that might cause the economy to overheat."

An official review was expected to be revealed next week, according to Mr Wichit.

Vietnam

Twenty-Fourth Joint Search for MIA's Concludes

BK2007144993 Hanoi VNA in English 1334 GMT 20 Jul 93

[Text] Hanoi VNA July 20—The 24th US-Vietnam joint search for American servicemen reportedly missing (MIA) during the Vietnam war was conducted in central

Vietnam provinces from Nghe An to Quang Nam - Danang from June 24 July 20.

In the said period, Vietnamese and US specialists reinvestigated discrepancy cases, interviewed officials who had possibly known about the POW/MIA issue, and gathered information at central and local levels to provide the joint MIA document central in Hanoi.

During those activities, the specialists of the two countries collected a number of remains, interviewed 36 people having information relating to 11 missing Americans and received a number of documents relating to the MIA issue in the fourth military zone to hand over to the document centre.

The US side highly appreciated the cooperation of the Vietnamese local authorities and peoples for the joint search. The two sides agreed to start the 25th joint search on August 19, 1993.

Premier Receives Outgoing Malaysian Ambassador

BK2007150393 Hanoi VNA in English 1339 GMT 20 Jul 93

[Text] Hanoi VNA July 20—Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet received here yesterdy Malaysian Ambassador N. Parameswaran who paid him a farewell visit at the end of his term of office in vietnam.

Speaking to the Malaysian diplomat, P.M. Vo Van Kiet expressed his satisfaction at the remarkable development of the friendship and cooperation between the two countries in many fields, in which a number of Malaysia's investment projects in Vietnam were being implemented with promising results. He reaffirmed the Vietnamese Government and people's determination to promote the two countries's friendship and cooperation to a larger scale and with higher efficiency for prosperity in both countries and for peace, stability and development in the region.

For his part, the out-going Malaysian ambassador held that there were no obstacles to the development of the friendship and cooperation between Malaysia and Vietnam, which he said resulted from the tireless efforts made by the governments and peoples of both countries.

He said he wished that the mutual advantageous ties would be further developed and that agreements reached by the two prime ministers in Hanoi and Kuala Lumpur would soon be materialized, thus meeting the aspirations of the Malaysians and Vietnamese.

First Ambassador to Singapore Presents Credentials

BK1707070893 Hanoi VNA in English 0607 GMT 17 Jul 93

[Text] Hanoi VNA July 17—Nguyen Manh Hung, the first Vietnamese ambassador to Singapore, presented his credentials to Singaporean President Wee Kim Wee on Thursday.

After the presentation, President Wee Kim Wee had a cordial conversation with Ambassador Nguyen Manh Hung during which the Singaporean leader expressed his satisfaction at the rapid development of the friendly and cooperative relations between the two countries. He highly appreciated the socio-economic achievements recorded by the Vietnamese people in their current renovation process.

President Wee also expressed the Singaporean Government and people's wish to develop their relations with Vietnam, and he said he believed that the friendship and all-sided cooperation between the two countries would contribute to strengthening peace and stability in Southeast Asia.

President Wee asked the Vietnamese ambassador to convey his greetings to President Le Duc Anh and other Vietnamese leaders.

Diplomatic Relations Established With Eritrea

BK2007145793 Hanoi VNA in English 1328 GMT 20 Jul 93

[Text] Hanoi, VNA July 20—Vietnam and Eritrea signed in Yemen today a joint communique to establish diplomatic relations at ambassadorial level between the two countries.

Signatories were Vietnamese Ambassador Do Cong Minh and Eritrean Ambassador Mahmud Ali Jabra on behalf of their governments.

Phan Van Khai on Socioeconomic Development

BK2007114793 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam in English 1000 GMT 20 Jul 93

["Excerpt" of interview with Deputy Prime Minister Phan Van Khai by QUAN DOI NHAN DAN on the "Government's Plans To Implement the Resolutions of the Fifth Plenum of the Party Central Committee and Those of the Third Session of the National Assembly;" place and date not given—read by announcer]

[Text] The Vietnamese Government will meet late this month to discuss the implementation of the fifth party Central Committee Plenum concerning agriculture and rural economic development. The government will renew its leading role to implement the 10-point program for 1993, focussing on most urgent and demanding issues.

Prime Minister Phan Van Khai said: The government will organize three meetings with the chairmen of provinces and cities in August this year. They are aimed to discuss measures for implementation of those resolutions and inform of preparations for the two-year plan, 1994 and 1995. Then the government will meet with mountain provinces to discuss socioeconomic development in those areas.

On the state budget and job generation, Vice Premier Phan Van Khai said: Job creation and elimination of famine and poverty are the key issues in the national socioeconomic program, demanding the participation of the entire society. This is closely linked with investment for development. He said the Vietnamese Government has bypassed the 1993 budget to settle these issues.

Doan Khue Speaks at Graduation Ceremony

BK1907080993 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1400 GMT 15 Jul 93

[Text] The Politico-Military Academy held a ceremony this morning, 15 July, to mark the graduation of the 1990-93 course and the conclusion of the 1992-93 academic year. General Doan Khue, member of the Political Bureau and minister of national defense, attended and addressed cadres, instructors, students, and office and manual workers there.

Over the past years, the academy has effected many improvements despite the great impact of the complicated international situation and the difficulties confronting the nation, and satisfactorily fulfilling its training duties. A total of 154 students of the 1990-93 course, as well as 203 intermediate- and high-level cadres and 27 high-level cadres of a political refresher course have graduated, thus accounting for a 100-percent achievement ratio.

In addition to academic achievements, the management has also attached importance to students' training activities. One hundred percent of primary party organizations have directed units under their charge in satisfactorily fulfilling all tasks. A total of 384 party members have been recognized as fully qualified upon graduation.

Speaking on this occasion, Comrade Doan Khue warmly commended cadres, instructors, students, and office and manual workers for their great efforts. He emphatically said: At present, the struggle to preserve independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity, Marxism-Leninism, and Ho Chi Minh ideology, as well to defend the party and the socialist regime is developing in an extremely seething and complicated manner. To bring into full play the aggregate strength of the Armed Forces, we must attach primary importance to the quality of political indoctrination. The Politico-Military Academy plays a particularly important role in that field.

Comrade Doan Khue was positive that upon graduation, the students would make good use of their knowledge and satisfactorily perform their new tasks.

Vu Oanh Speaks at Machinery Trade Union Congress

BK1907081393 Hanoi Vietnam Television Network in Vietnamese 1200 GMT 16 Jul 93

[Text] The trade union of the Vietnam machinery and metallurgy sector held its fifth congress of delegates in Hanoi from 14 to 15 July.

Attending were Comrade Vu Oanh, member of the Party Central Committee Political Bureau; Comrade Nguyen Van Tu, chairman of the Confederation of Vietnamese Workers; Comrade Tran Lum, minister of heavy industry; and trade union representatives from many localities and sectors.

In its report presented at the congress, the trade union executive committee said:

Embarking on the new mechanism, the machinery sector has encountered numerous difficulties. However, thanks to the persistent efforts of its cadres, workers, and laborers, in 1992 the sector was able to export 2,500 metric tons of steel bars, an increase of four times compared to 1988. The sector has procured and is procuring markets for its new products such as small motors and spare parts for automobiles, motors, and cement furnaces, as well as spare parts for the rubber and oil and natural gas industries.

Most of the electronics corporations have actively searched for all available sources of capital for investment in the expansion of their production.

In its recent term of office, together with the administration, the trade union of the sector has effected many new changes in directing the movement for productive labor under the motto of thriftiness, quality, and efficiency. It has also ensured employment and a better life for laborers.

Addressing the congress, Comrades Vu Oanh and Nguyen Van Tu welcomed the achievements recorded by cadres and workers of the machinery and metallurgy sector. They also expressed the belief that with the fine tradition of its workers, the machinery, metallurgy, and electronics sector will advance steadily in the days ahead.

Attends Trade Union Maritime Congress

BK1707135193 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 16 Jul 93

[Text] The Trade Union of Vietnam Maritime Production Sector held its first congress on 15-16 July. Comrade Vu Oanh, member of party Central Committee Political Bureau, and Comrade Nguyen Van Tu, president of the Confederation of Vietnamese Workers, attended and spoke to the congress.

Although having been established for less than one year, the Trade Union of Maritime Production Sector has endeavored to cooperate with other sectors, purchased many new equipments, and harmoniously developed the tasks of catching, rearing, and processing of maritime products, thus creating over 7,000 new jobs and enhancing production and trade efficiencies. The union has launched a emulation campaign for higher production output and product quality, low costs, and improvement of living standards for workers.

The congress set up directions and objectives for the period to come, which are to continue the reform of union activities, to set up mutual assistance fund to help accident victims in fishery and other mutual assistance funds, and to assist worker families in developing home economy. The union will also launch the Golden Hand emulation campaign to mobilize for higher efficiency in production, processing, and sales of maritime products.

Attends Women's Union Gathering

BK1607151793 Hanoi Vietnam Television Network in Vietnamese 1200 GMT 15 Jul 93

[Text] On the evening of 12 July, the Central Committee of the Vietnam Women's Union held a get-together with 73 female National Assembly deputies currently attending the Ninth National Assembly's third session.

Attending were Comrade Vu Oanh, member of the Party Central Committee Political Bureau in charge of mass mobilization work; Comrade Truong My Hoa, secretary of the Party Central Committee and president of the Vietnam Women's Union; Comrade Nguyen Thi Binh, state vice president; and many other high-ranking cadres.

On behalf of the Vietnam Women's Union, Comrade Vo Thi Thang gave a briefing on the tasks and activities that had been carried out by women nationwide in the first six months of 1993, as well as on the guidelines for their activities between now and the end of this year.

During the first six months of this year, encouraging results had been obtained from many practical women's movements. Large numbers of women had actively participated in or responded to the movements to help each other in family economic work, to create additional jobs and increase income, to satisfactorily care for and educate their children, and so forth.

At this cordial get-together, the female National Assembly deputies pledged to fulfill their duties to make themselves worthy of being representatives of the people, by the people, and for the people.

Interior Minister Greets People's Police Day

BK2007102493 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 19 Jul 93

[Text] On the anniversary of the traditional day of the People's Police Force on 20 July, the People's Police General Department under the Interior Ministry held a get-together on 19 July for units and individuals who carried out meritorious deeds in implementing the president's directives and the prime minister's Directive No. 233 on building an upstanding and steadfast People's Police Force.

After a year of continual efforts and creative activities, the People's Police Force countrywide has scored encouraging achievements, especially in contributing to the campaign to fight corruption and smuggling as well as to suppress criminals and maintain good social order and safety. Many units and individuals have shown exemplary service with high determination to triumph over difficulties and have been courageous, innovative, and intelligent in the struggle against criminals of all sorts. They were also noted for their fine character and devotion to their duty of serving the people. Four units and seven individuals were awarded with party and state orders, six units and 15 individuals were awarded with government commendation certificates, and over 100 units and individuals received other awards.

Speaking at the function, Interior Minister Bui Thien Ngo cordially praised the units and individuals who received awards. The comrade minister asserted that these new efforts reflected the determination of the People's Police Force to advance on the front of crime suppression and prevention, and to uphold the law and maintain good social order and safety, thereby contributing to the stability of political security and the renovation undertaking of the country.

Grain Production Targets Set Through 1995

BK2007142893 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 19 Jul 93

[Text] Implementing the party Central Committee's Fifth Plenum Resolution on continuing socioeconomic renovation and development in the rural areas up to the year 2000, the agriculture and food industry sector has set forth the main objectives for the period from now until the year 1995. This is aimed at concentrating efforts on satisfactorily bringing the resolution into practice to gain momentum for the struggle to reach all targets and solutions laid down by the Central Committee's resolution for the period up to the year 2000.

Based on the orientations for renovation and on the agricultural economic structure that has been modified from the rural economic structure and specified in the party Central Committee's Fifth Plenum Resolution, between now and 1995 our agricultural system must undergo obvious changes in the direction of a diversified structure so as to exploit the advantages of all ecological areas and quickly increase productivity, quality, and efficiency.

The objective of the sector is that by 1995 the entire country must produce 25 million metric tons of grain and increase the average per capita grain distribution from 345 to 350 kilgrams.

Microwave Transmission Line Commissioned

BK1907075593 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 17 Jul 93

[Text] According to a central highlands-based Voice of Vietnam radio correspondent, at 0000 on 17 July the Dac Lac Provincial Post and Telegraph Office officially put the microwave transmission line in the northern part of the province into operation.

The line includes two networks and 39 channels. Of these, 30 channels are to share the same network with Gia Lai Province while the remaining nine are to be transmitted directly to Qui Nhon and integrated into the national network.

The operation of the microwave transmission line will in the immediate future help the Dac Lac Provincial Post and Telegraph Service meet the need for faster and more convenient communications. This, however, can only meet about one-tenth of the need for smooth and rapid transmission.

With the trend of socioeconomic development becoming increasingly favorable, the need for domestic and foreign communications in Dac Lac is increasing rapidly. If the General Post and Telegraph will invest in the installation of equipment for the operation of a microwave transmission line to the southern part through Ho Chi Minh city, the Dac Lac Provincial Post and Telegraph Service will be able to basically satisfy demand.

Hanoi TV Broadcasts Daily News in French

BK1907071193 Hanoi Vietnam Television Network in Vietnamese 1200 GMT 15 Jul 93

[Text] With aim of satisfying the needs for external news reporting, on 14 July the Vietnam television station officially broadcast its first daily newscast in French. Attending the inauguration ceremony were Mr. Jean Francois Nougaradede, French ambassador to Vietnam, and representatives of the Vietnamese and French mass media.

This is a video newscast prepared by correspondents of the Vietnam television station. The content of the 10-minute long video newscast includes political, economic, social, and cultural news in Vietnam, together with video international news provided by AFP.

The newscast begins at 2230 [1030 GMT], after the English newscast.

Ba Ria-Vung Tau's Six-Month Achievements Reported

BK1607141493 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 16 Jul 93

[Text] In the first six months of the year, 2.750 million tonnes of oil and gas were exploited in the vicinity of Ba Ria-Vung Tau Province. The province scored a gross industrial value of 4,590 billion dong, of which local industry achieved 400 billion dong, during the period. The province exploited 31,400 tonnes of aquatic products. Relatively good progress was also achieved in all areas of trade, tourism, imports-exports, and in cooperation and investment.

In cooperation and investment, Ba Ria-Vung Tau has 21 projects to be implemented with a total value of $177 million.

In implementing decision No. 26 issued by the government, Ba Ria Vung Tau Province is carrying out preparatory work to move the provincial town to Ba Ria and will allocate some land to Vung Tau City authorities so they can raise their own economic development funds from the use of the lands. These tasks are bringing encouraging initial outcomes up to now.